

Name Spolansky, Jacob Terms #5 per \$7 pd. 1/4  
 Title S.E. Hdq'rs. Chicago E. O. D. 7-19-19 Out. "

TO DIV. ACCTS.	MONTH	SALARY	VOU. NO.	DATE	AMOUNT	SENT TO
<u>Aug 14</u>	JULY	<u>1931 65</u>	<u>204</u>	<u>8-21</u>	<u>65</u>	<u>Chicago Ill</u>
<u>Sept 8</u>	AUG.	<u>131 155</u>	<u>247</u>	<u>9-13</u>	<u>155</u>	<u>" "</u>
<u>Oct 7</u>	SEPT.	<u>130 150</u>	<u>590</u>	<u>10-16</u>	<u>150</u>	<u>" "</u>
<u>Nov 11</u>	OCT.	<u>121 155</u>	<u>859</u>	<u>11-15</u>	<u>155</u>	<u>" "</u>
<u>Dec 10</u>	NOV.	<u>130 150</u>	<u>983</u>	<u>12-18</u>	<u>150</u>	<u>" "</u>
<u>Jan 5</u>	DEC.	<u>131 155</u>	<u>437</u>	<u>1-9</u>	<u>155 00</u>	<u>" "</u>
	JAN.	<u>Jan. salary paid on Form 5</u>				
<u>Mar 8</u>	FEB.	<u>129 203</u>	<u>1038</u>	<u>3-15</u>	<u>203 -</u>	<u>" "</u>
<u>Apr 2</u>	MAR.	<u>131 217 00</u>	<u>331</u>	<u>4-7</u>	<u>217 -</u>	<u>" "</u>
	APR.	<u>Appointed April 1, 1920</u>				
	MAY					
	JUNE					

Name Spolansky, Jacob Terms 185 yr  
 Title SLP Hdq's Chicago E. O. D. Out.

TO DIV. ACCTS.	MONTH	SALARY	VOU. NO.	DATE	AMOUNT	SENT <u>Appointe</u>
<u>1921</u>						
<u>Oct 12</u>	JULY					
	AUG.					
	SEPT.	<u>30 46.20</u>	<u>587</u>	<u>10/16</u>	<u>47.00</u>	<u>Chicago</u>
	OCT.					
	NOV.	<u>Congressional bonus</u>				
	DEC.					
	JAN.					
	FEB.					
	MAR.					
<u>Oct 12</u>	APR.					
	MAY					
	JUNE	<u>30 44.40</u>	<u>117</u>	<u>10/16</u>	<u>47.00</u>	<u>Chicago</u>

Name Spolansky, Jacob

Working at

Increase

S. A. S.A.

Per annum

Dead 8-24-66

S. E.

" month

Clk.

" day

Stn.

" diem

Inf.

" assignment

Exm.

Actual expenses

Act.

Cen.

Legal residence: Illinois.

Appt'd

Empl'd

Headquarters Chicago, Ill.

Resigned

Resigned  
March 7/1929  
Accepted

Qath 4-5-20

W. o. d. 4-1-20

7/1/29

DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

APPLICATION FOR APPOINTMENT

Chicago, November 8, 1923. 192

THE ATTORNEY GENERAL,  
Washington, D. C.

SIR:

I herewith make application for appointment to the position of Special Agent  
in the Department of Justice, and for your use in this connection submit the following information:

1. Name in full Jacob Spolansky  
(Family name) (Given name) (Initial)
2. Legal residence: 5000 North Sawyer Ave., Chicago, Ill.
3. Mail and telegraphic address P. O. Box 455, Chicago, Ill.
4. Age on last birthday 32 Weight 190 Height 6' 2"
5. (a) Place of birth Kieff, Russia (b) Present citizenship Naturalized American
6. Place of birth of (a) father Russia (b) mother Russia
7. Were you ever in the service of the United States? Yes.
8. If so, when, and in what department of the service? Agent of the Intelligence Division  
General Staff, United States Army- from April 1918 until July 1, 1919.
9. Are you married? (If married woman, state whether husband is in Federal service.) Yes.
10. Are you physically capable of discharging the duties of the position sought? (Any physical defects should be fully described.) Yes.



11. Have you ever been defendant in a criminal case in court?

Specify:

12. Education: (Under this head your entire educational training should be given in chronological order, with the period spent in each institution, degrees taken, etc. Knowledge of any languages other than English should be indicated first.)

I speak Russian, German, Ukrainian, Bohemian, Bulgarian, Serbian, Croatian, French. I can also converse freely in Yiddish, and understand Lithvinian language.

High School - 5 $\frac{1}{2}$  years

University of Kieff - About two years

University of Zurich, Switzerland, one year

Law School at Chicago - two years.

13. Experience: (Under this head, in chronological order, state your entire business and professional experience, including names of employers and dates.)

H. Friend, 32 S. State St., Chicago, Ill., (Salesmanship) 1911 to 1915

Representing a number of newspapers in the advertising business from 1915 to 1917

From 1917 to April 1918 operated a newspaper in the City of Chicago, also assisting the Federal Reserve Division in Liberty Loan Drives.

From April 1918 until July 1, 1919 with the Intelligence Division General Staff

United States Army. From July 1, 1919 until July 18, 1919 employed as an investigator by the Sheriff of Cook County, State of Illinois.

From July 19th until this date, employed as a Special Agent, Bureau of Investigation, U.S. Department of Justice.

14. Have you ever been discharged from a position? No.

15. References to persons well qualified to judge as to your fitness for the position sought:

Felix Streyckmans, 127 North Dearborn St., Chicago, Ill.

Make Mills, in charge of the Chicago Police Dept. Bomb Squad, Police Dept., Chicago.

Col. Carl Reichman, formerly in charge Intelligence Division, Central Dept.

U. S. War Department. Present address - War Dept. Washington, D.C.

W. McCourt, Superintendent, Water Dept., City Hall, Chicago, Ill.

Robt. Levy, U.S. Marshal, Chicago, Ill.

Edw. J. Brennan, Special Agent in Charge, New York Office, Bureau of Investigation.

16. Gives names of societies or organizations with which connected:

Knights Pythias

17. State any additional facts which may tend to show your fitness for the position sought:

My knowledge in languages, and my previous experience in investigating  
Radical activities.

18. Are you now employed? If so, give name and address of employer, and rate of compensation received. What is the highest compensation you have ever received in any employment, and for what period?

Yes - United States Bureau of Investigation, United States Department  
Of Justice. - \$7.00 per day.

19. Are you in a position to accept temporary employment at anytime, without previous notice, and, if notice is required, how much?

20. Are you willing and prepared to accept assignment to any part of the United States where services are required? Yes.

21. Attach unmounted photograph not larger than 3 by 4 inches. Write your name plainly on back of photograph.

Respectfully,



*John Spelarsky*  
(Signature of applicant.)

(Return this form to The Attorney General, Department of Justice,  
Washington, D. C.)

Note.—If the applicant desires to make any further remarks or statement concerning his qualifications or in answer to any question contained in the application, the same should be made on a separate sheet of paper, numbering the remarks in accordance with original questions.

APPLICATION FOR  
JACOB SPOLANSKY

Application for Appointment to Position of Special Agent of  
the Department of Justice.

Chicago, Illinois,

February 20, 1919.

*The Attorney General,  
Washington, D. C.*

SIR:

I have the honor to make application for appointment to the position of Special Agent of the Department of Justice, and for your use in this connection the following information is respectfully submitted:

1. Name in full: Jacob Spolansky
2. Legal residence: 1900 W. Division St., Chicago, Ill.
3. Mail and telegraphic address: 1900 W. Division St., Chicago, Ill.
4. Age on last birthday: 29 years
- Weight: 182 Lbs. Height: 6 feet 2 inches.
5. Place of birth: Russia
6. Were you ever in the service of the United States? Yes
7. If so, in what department of the service were you employed? Army Intelligence Dept.,  
Headquarters Central Department, Chicago, Ill.
8. Are you married? Yes
9. Are you physically capable of discharging the duties of the position sought? (Any physical defects should be fully described.) Yes
10. Do you use intoxicating liquors or narcotics? If so, to what extent? No
11. General educational training: Under this head the applicant's entire educational training should be given in chronological order, stating the period spent in each institution, degrees taken, etc. Knowledge of any languages other than English should be indicated.) High School - 4 years,  
2 years Law School,  
I speak the following languages - Russian, read, write and speak fluently,  
Ukrainian, read, write and speak fluently. Croatian, read and speak. Polish, read  
and speak. Bulgarian, read and speak. Servian, read and speak. Hebrew, understand  
and speak fairly well. German, understand and speak fairly.

12. Special educational training: (Under this head consideration will be given to the applicant's special training which in any way tends to fit him for the position sought.)

Studied radical movements, political economy, Was connected with newspaper work in Chicago. I was connected for one year with the Army Intelligence, as investigator of radical movements.

13. General experience: (Under this head applicant should state, in chronological order, his entire business experience.)

Advertising solicitor for the "Russkoye Slovo", 31 E. 7th St., New York City.

Business Manager of the "Russian Post", 2407 W. Division St., Chicago. (Now out of business).

Business Manager of the "Daily Free Russia", 1722 W. Chicago Ave., Chicago.

Agent, Army Intelligence, Headquarters Central Department, 230 E. Ohio St., Chicago, Ill.

14. Special experience in investigation work: (Under this head state nature of positions held and specific character of work done.)

Agent of the Military Intelligence, Headquarters Central Department. Work consisted of general investigation of radical movements in Chicago, race groups, etc.

15. References to persons qualified to judge as to applicant's fitness for the position sought.

Major Thomas B. Crockett, Department Intelligence Officer, 230 E. Ohio St.,

George P. Braun (Formerly Captain) 1221 Astor St., Chicago, Ill.

Sergeant M. Mills, formerly Head of Chicago Anarchist Squad, Police Dept.,

present address - Vanderbilt Hotel, New York City.

Special Agent Augustus Loula, Bureau Of Investigation, Federal Bldg., Chicago.

17. Are you now employed? If so, give name and address of employer, and rate of compensation received. What is the highest compensation you have received in any employment, and for what period? Yes - Agent, Army Intelligence, 230 E. Ohio St., Chicago; present compensation \$4.50 per day.

18. What is the minimum per diem salary, in addition to actual traveling and hotel expenses, which you would accept? \$5.00 per day.

19. Are you in a position to accept temporary employment at any time, without previous notice, and notice is required, how much Yes. One week notice.

20. I submit herewith a recent photograph of myself.

Respectfully,

J. Spolansky  
(Signature of Applicant)



(Mount Clipping in Space Below)

## Jacob Spolansky, An Investigator

Services for Jacob Spolansky, 76, a one-time Federal Bureau of Investigation agent and the author of a 1951 best-seller, "The Communist Trail in America," will be held at 1:45 p.m. Friday in the Ira Kaufman Chapel, 18325 W. Mile Mile, Southfield.

Mr. Spolansky died Wednesday night in Grace Hospital-Northwest Unit.

Born in Russia, he came to the United States in 1912. After service in the U.S. Army during World War I, he joined the FBI. In later years, he was a consultant on security matters for the National Association of Manufacturers and was an investigator for a New York City law firm. After his retirement, he moved to Oak Park, where he lived at 21880 Coolidge.

Survivors include his wife, Marie, two daughters, Mrs. Zinovi Bistrizky and Mrs. Erwin Fairfield, a brother, a sister and four grandchildren.

Burial will be in Northwest Memorial Park Cemetery.

Mr. Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. DeLoach \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Wick \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Casper \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Callahan \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Conrad \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Felt \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Gale \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Sullivan \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Tavel \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Trotter \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Miss Holmes \_\_\_\_\_  
Miss Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

(Indicate page, name of newspaper, city and state.)

7B DETROIT FREE PRESS  
DETROIT, MICHIGAN

Date: 8-26-66  
Edition: METRO FINAL  
Author:  
Editor: LEE HILLS  
Title:

Character:

or

Classification:

Submitting Office: DETROIT

☐ Being Investigated

136  
67-NOT RECORDED  
1 SEP 20 1966

3/1

JEM: LMR

*sub file*  
October 23, 1924.

*Mr Baughman*

Mr. Philip Hamlin,  
P.O. Box 455,  
Chicago, Ill.

Dear Sir:

Replying to your communication of the 10th instant relative to certain articles appearing in the daily press written by former Agent Spolansky, I desire to refer to the reply addressed to the Chicago office under date of April 29, 1924, to its communication of April 24th. As no further information was received by the Bureau here from Chicago subsequent to its letter of April 29th, it is assumed that no detailed information was obtained to substantiate the suspicion that former Agent Spolansky had removed from the files of the Chicago office any government documents.

Very truly yours,

Acting Director.

RECORDED - INDEXED

MAILED  
OCT 25 1924

67-1989-1

Department of Justice,

Bureau of Investigation.

POST OFFICE BOX 455  
CHICAGO ILLINOIS



October 10, 1924.

DIRECTOR,  
Bureau of Investigation,  
Department of Justice,  
Washington, D.C.

Dear Sir: ATTENTION - MR. HOOVER

67-1989-

I am forwarding under separate cover a mailing tube for your attention, containing an advertisement issued by the CHICAGO DAILY NEWS, announcing the forthcoming publication by that newspaper of certain articles entitled: "CHICAGO PLOTS OF THE REDS EXPOSED BY A UNITED STATES SECRET SERVICE AGENT".

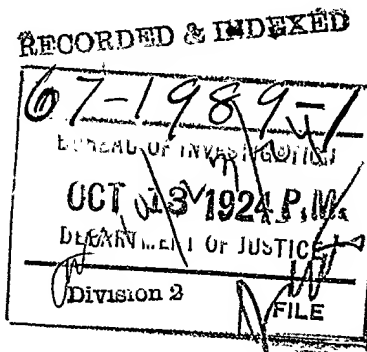
It is understood that these articles are from the pen of former AGENT SPOLANSKY of this Office.

In this connection you may recall a letter addressed to DIRECTOR BURNS (for your attention) under date of April 24th, 1924, written by former Agent in Charge J.P. ROONEY, regarding a number of photostatic copies of documents seized in the Bridgman Raids which were discovered to be missing shortly after Agent SPOLANSKY'S separation from the Bureau Service.

Yours very truly,

*Philip Hamlin*  
PHILIP HAMLIN  
Agent in Charge.

PH:KEB



Department of Justice

Bureau of Investigation

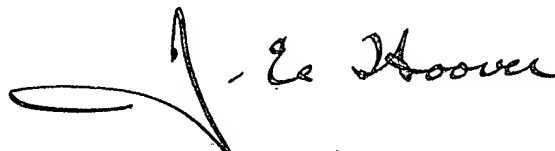
Washington, D. C.

October 21, 1924.

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. MARTIN.

With regard to the attached communication addressed to the Attorney General from Mr. Judson King, Director of the National Popular Government League, referring to a series of articles appearing in a number of the newspapers of the country written by one Jacob Spolansky upon the question of radicalism, you are advised that Spolansky resigned from the service of the Bureau of Investigation in January, 1924, and his resignation was accepted to take effect as of March 7, 1924, he being granted thirty days leave of absence. Spolansky has had no access to any of the files or papers of the Bureau of Investigation since his resignation therefrom in January, 1924, and the Bureau of Investigation has had no connection, directly or indirectly, with any of the articles now appearing in the daily press written by Spolansky.

Very truly yours,

  
Acting Director.

Encl. 35374.

*from office of a. s.  
file*

*67-1989-2*

From

# The Attorney General

to

Official indicated below by check mark

		Memorandum
Solicitor General.....		
Assistant to Attorney General.....		
Assistant Attorney General Lovett.....		
Assistant Attorney General Holland.....		
Assistant Attorney General Willebrandt.....		
Assistant Attorney General Ottinger.....		
Assistant Attorney General Davis.....		
Assistant Attorney General Wells.....		
Director, Bureau Investigation.....	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Mr. Votaw.....		
Mr. Strong.....		
Mr. Finch.....		
Mr. Somborger.....		
Mr. Robb.....		
.....		
.....		
.....		

October 21, 1944.

Judson King, Esq., Director,  
National Popular Government League,  
Munsey Bldg.,  
Washington, D.C.

Dear Sir:

I beg to acknowledge receipt of your letter of the 18th enclosing newspaper clippings in the Washington Star of October 17th entitled "Startling evidence revealed in United States probe of Communists," enquiring whether the Department of Justice had anything to do with the matter or whether the anonymous author of the series was given free use of the Departmental files.

I beg to reply that neither the Bureau of Investigation nor any other division of the Department of Justice has had anything to do with the matter, either directly or indirectly.

These articles appear to have been written by Jacob Spolansky who was at one time an agent with the Bureau. He resigned, however, in January, 1924 and has had no access to any of the files or papers of the Bureau of Investigation since his resignation.

Yours very truly,

Attorney General.

## NATIONAL POPULAR GOVERNMENT LEAGUE

637 MUNSEY BUILDING  
WASHINGTON, D. C.

October 18, 1924.

## PRESIDENT

ROBERT L. OWEN,  
U. S. Senator, Oklahoma.

## GENERAL COMMITTEE

WILLIAM KENT, Kentfield, Cal.,  
Business, Ex-Congressman.DR. JOHN R. HAYNES, Los Angeles,  
Physician.J. H. MCGILL, Valparaiso, Ind.,  
Manufacturer.PROF. E. A. ROSS, Madison,  
Sociology, University of Wisconsin.HARRY A. SLATTERY, Washington,  
Former Sec. National Conservation  
Association.JACKSON H. RALSTON, Washington,  
Attorney and Author.

## DIRECTOR

JUDSON KING, Washington,  
Writer and Lecturer.

## CONSULTING COMMITTEE

ALICE STONE BLACKWELL, Boston,  
Former Editor The Woman's Journal.WARREN S. BLAUVELT, Terre Haute,  
Coal and Coke Operator.LAWRENCE G. BROOKS, Boston,  
Attorney.GEO. H. DUNCAN, E. Jaffrey, N. H.,  
Member State Legislature.HERMAN L. EKERH, Madison,  
Attorney-General, Wisconsin.PROF. A. R. HATTON, Cleveland,  
Political Science, Western Reserve  
University.PROF. A. N. HOLCOMBE, Cambridge,  
Government, Harvard University.WM. H. JOHNSTON, Washington,  
Pres. International Machinists.EDWARD KEATING, Washington,  
Managing Editor, "Labor."EDWIN MARKHAM, Staten Island,  
Poet.FRANK MORRISON, Washington,  
Sec. American Federation of Labor.CHAS. H. PORTER, Cambridge, Mass.,  
Manufacturer.ALICE TEACHER POST, Washington,  
Former Managing Editor "The  
Public."LOUIS F. POST, Washington,  
Former Asst. Sec. of Labor.HERBERT QUICK, Berkeley Springs,  
W. Va.,  
Author.CHARLES EDWARD RUSSELL, Washington,  
Author and Lecturer.DR. JOHN A. RYAN, Washington,  
Industrial Ethics, Catholic Univ.PROF. J. ALLEN SMITH, Seattle,  
Political Science, University of  
Washington.WM. S. U'REN, Portland,  
Attorney; Creator "Oregon System."CARL S. VROOMAN, Bloomington, Ill.,  
Farmer; Ex-Sec. of Agriculture.DELOS F. WILCOX, Grand Rapids, Mich.,  
Consulting Franchise Expert.MRS. LAURA WILLIAMS, Washington,  
Director, Progressive Education  
Association.H. H. WILLOCK, Pittsburgh,  
Manufacturer.PROF. J. A. WOODBURN, Bloomington,  
History, University of Indiana.Hon. Harlan F. Stone, Attorney General,  
Department of Justice,  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

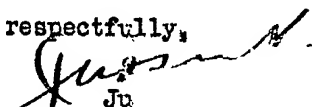
Enclosed is a clipping from last night's "Star" entitled "Startling evidence revealed in United States probe of Communists," apparently syndicated by the Chicago Daily News Company, as per catch word at the close. It is the first instalment of a series.

You will note that without being specifically stated the inference to the casual reader is cleverly conveyed that the United States Department of Justice has just recently consummated a "Red" investigation, the results of which have been released by the Department, given through the Daily News Syndicate, to the country.

It is difficult for me to believe that this resurrection of a dead ghost, so carefully nurtured into life by Palmer, Daugherty and Burns, has had your sanction and cooperation, and I am writing this to inquire if the Department of Justice had anything to do with the matter, or whether the anonymous author of the series was given free use of the Department files. You will recall that the National Popular Government League in 1920 issued the "Report of the Twelve Lawyers on the Illegal Practices of the Department of Justice" under Attorney General Palmer. I had some correspondence with you at the time the Report was under investigation by the Senate Judiciary Committee, and I am happy to recall your influence at that time was given in support of the attempt to return to common sense and a just administration of law.

Friends of Constitutional liberty, of whom I am one, who have no sympathy with anarchists of the deed or revolutionary action such as is supposed to be contemplated by Bolsheviks, were greatly pleased by your act, upon assuming the office of Attorney General, in putting an end to the propaganda activities of the Department designed needlessly to alarm the public and further to arouse suspicion, hate and fear. As I said before, I cannot believe that this sort of thing is to be resumed with your knowledge or consent.

Yours very respectfully,



JK:MK

BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION	
MAR 7 1925 P.M.	
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE	
Division 1	FILE

R.  
ight and to-  
h and north-  
ours ending at  
75, at noon to-  
m. today.

Bonds, Page 28.

ond class matter  
ashington, D. C.

# The

WASHINGTON,

## **Startling Evidence Revealed In U. S. Probe of Communists**

### **Reports of Investigation Squad Show Rapid Growth of Red Ranks Intent Upon Overthrow of Government.**

Ever since 1918, shortly after the communism idea had boiled and seethed in Russia to bring about the overthrow there of monarchical government, rumors have been afloat in the United States warning the people that a similar movement here would some day be successful; that at some time the ultra-radical classes would arise and uproot the present Government, bringing about a chaos in this country similar to that which has prevailed in Russia.

These rumors have been passed over with a laugh. They have been looked upon by many as constituting a national bugaboo, and stories of what the Communists or radicals were accomplishing have been often set aside as fairy tales.

Beginning some six years back many were the tales told of the unrest which "red" agitators had stirred up in the United States. These tales gradually grew to such proportions that the Government's interest was

aroused and an investigation squad was formed to do nothing but keep watch on all radical meetings.

Reports from this squad were of a startling nature, showing that bolshevism had not only acquired a foothold in the United States, but also that this foothold had become sufficiently secure to be considered by officials as a national menace. A full and complete record of the work of these investigators has been received in Washington and is on file here. This report described the growth of communism in America. It revealed that prominent men were behind it, and that through its organization "red" leaders in Moscow hoped to accomplish the overthrow of the United States Government by force. And it enumerated illegal acts performed by instigators of the movement in furtherance of their purpose to substitute for the present Government a "proletarian regime," wherein capital would have no place

(Continued on Page 13, Column 2.)



OCTOBER 17, 1924.

## CHANG'S TROOPS REPORTED BEATEN

**Declared Driven Beyond  
Great Wall—Feng Yu Yung  
Is Executed.**

By the Associated Press.

PEKING, October 17.—Chang Tso-Lin's Manchurian troops have been driven beyond the great wall, an official communique says.

### FIGHT FOUR DAYS.

**Mukdenites Drive Chihlis Back  
With Bayonets.**

BY WILLIAM R. GILES.

By Cable to The Star and Chicago Daily News.  
MUKDEN, October 17.—The following is an eye-witness account of the fighting around Shanhaikwan:

On October 12 Wu Pei-Fu arrived at Shanhaikwan and immediately had Feng Yu Yung, brother of the Christian General, shot on account of the Mukdenites defeating him. Wu Pei-Fu, with the 13th Division and a brigade of his own 12th Division, launched an attack on the main gate, which was held by the Mukdenites. Assisted by naval units he attacked repeatedly regardless of casualties.

The Mukdenites, who were in high spirits on account of their previous victories, resisted determinedly. After the fourth attack they made a sortie, driving the Chihlis back at the bayonet point.

### Four Days' Fighting.

West of Santaokuan and Chimen the Chihlis held the heights, which were greatly to their advantage geographically. Words fail to express the difficulties of the Mukdenites' advance. Hanlinchun, who led the

## Making Too Much Money to Leave Jail, Banker Says

By the Associated Press.

MOSCOW, October 17.—Alexander Krasnotchekoff, former banker-lawyer and premier of the Russian Far Eastern republic, who spent many years in the United States, and who in February of this year was sentenced to six years' imprisonment for extending banking credit to "nepmen" and private individuals, has written four books on banking and finance while in jail.

The Soviet authorities have offered him \$2,000 each for the volumes, and have also offered him a position in a state bank. Krasnotchekoff has declined both tenders, preferring to remain in prison, where, he says, he is making more money and enjoying more comfort than he could outside. He is in charge of 120 Russian prisoners, who make photographic plates and other articles. With them he shares in the profit of the work, a percentage going to the state. His friends believe he will soon be released.

## KENTUCKY SAFELY IN DAVIS COLUMN

**Senator Stanley, Democrat,  
in Hard Fight, But Likely  
to Pull Through.**

BY DAVID LAWRENCE.

# STARTLING EVIDENCE REVEALED OF "RED" ACTIVITIES IN AMERICA

(Continued from First Page.)

and wherein the working man would come into his own." In charge of this investigation of radicalism in the Chicago district considered the fountain head of Soviet plots was Jacob Spolansky, who from 1918 was employed by the Government to investigate all angles of the "red" movement. It was on his findings and mostly as the result of his efforts that a report was made a few months ago to the Department of Justice in Washington. Among the "reds" Mr. Spolansky is known as the "red terror." He received numerous warnings to withdraw from the investigation service and several threats have been made against his life.

## 1,000,000 in Red Banks

The results of this investigation startled even the Government officials. They proved that what had until that time been considered a national bugaboo was in reality a well organized movement with the overthrow of the United States Government as its purpose. They proved that behind this movement was Russia—"red" Russia—and that all instructions relating to the conduct of radicals here came direct from Moscow. They proved that the Communist International is out to conquer the world and that through its sinister propaganda communist ranks within three years would be a numerical strength exceeding a million.

Chicago, it developed from this investigation, is the headquarters for all radical activity in the United States. In this city have been held several secret conventions at which the overthrow of the Government was openly advocated and it was in Chicago that the first move was made to establish communism in America. In the articles to follow Mr. Spolansky will describe the origin of this movement. He will picture its aims, its surprising growth and describe in intimate detail the secret methods of the organization. He will name the men behind it and show to what amazing extent this sinister propaganda has spread.

## CHAPTER I

BY JACOB SPOLANSKY.

It was early afternoon on the 7th of November, 1918. A crushing, screaming mob which milled down the sidewalks and over-

flooded into the streets was shouting itself hoarse. The streets were jammed with traffic. Horns blared. Whistles shrieked. Men and women jostled each other hysterically as they waded knee deep through confetti and many-colored streamers. They laughed. They cried and waved their arms. Strangers embraced each other in wild abandon and passed on singing and shouting. No time this for bloom or for proprieties. The city was in an ecstasy of celebration, for peace had come at last.

Even as far west as Haleside street on Madison the crush was as great as a Christmas shoppers' convention on State street. Through this crowd, pressing its way slowly and with an occasional rasp of the horn to drive aside the people who hindered its progress, crept a large limousine. It carried a single occupant, a distinguished-looking, moderate sized man, with a firm-set mouth, who, as the machine drew up to the curb before the Mid-City Trust and Savings Bank, looked out unsmiling over the crowd. It was capotously sprinkled here with enthusiasts who reeled instead of walked, and several immediately seized upon the limousine as an additional means of support. The occupant of the car, however, took no notice. He alighted leisurely, dismissed the chauffeur with a nod, and after pausing to light a cigar, picked his way carefully across the sidewalk to the building entrance. Here he paused again and looked about, then opened the door and went quickly inside.

## Lloyd Lender in Movement

This man was William Bross Lloyd, millionaire socialist, to whom may be attributed in large part the founding of the communist movement in the United States. For on that very afternoon, ironically enough, while the entire city was busied in a frenzy of rejoicing in a little dark office on the sixth floor of that building, at a meeting called by Mr. Lloyd, communism was born in America.

At this meeting were endorsed the principles of communism as conceived in Moscow—a truly revolutionary movement having as its object the overthrow of the United States Government, a movement whose sponsors pledged themselves to aid in any way possible the uprooting of the Government.

We of the Government who had been assigned to watch for any suspi-

cious movements of the radicals had been waiting for many weeks for this meeting to take place. American troops were then in Russia, and from various camps there had come reports from commanding officers advising the War Department that propaganda was being spread among the soldiers to create unrest, dissatisfaction and revolt.

Pamphlets were tossed about the camps during the night telling the doughboy how his more fortunate brethren were being loaded into ships for home while he was allowed to freeze in Russia. He was made to feel that he was being discriminated against, and it was suggested that he demand to go home.

## Propaganda Gets Results

This propaganda brought some little results. Desertions were numerous and court-martials became more frequent. At any rate, whatever the result of this, it was the Russian propaganda which brought communism directly to the attention of the Government here.

I, along with several others, was directed to watch closely all radical operations. Several men were suspected of fomenting trouble in the United States and chief among these were some who attended this meeting on Armistice day. We shadowed them night and day. We watched where they went, who they met and listened to what they said. Finally there was intercepted a letter giving us the information for which we had been looking. It was this letter which gave notice of the meeting in the Mid-City Bank Building.

Mr. Lloyd had been the last to arrive, and the others had awaited his coming before proceeding to business. Communism, detests money, yet when one of the millionaire class is added to the radical ranks an added amount of respect is shown him by his comrades.

I had been watching for Mr. Lloyd. I followed him into the building, even got into the same elevator, then left it one floor higher up to escape notice and walked down to the floor on which the meeting was scheduled to take place. There were two of us watching that meeting, and it was

important that we know everything that transpired inside that room. It had been our first plan to gain access to the adjoining room, but there was no connecting door and the walls were thick. Therefore, such procedure would accomplish nothing.

## Opened Hall Door

Our only hope of gaining any information whatever was to hear it through that door leading into the hall. If our presence were detected we might as well stand out on the street for all the good it would do us. Not knowing that they were watching, they would talk of nothing more exciting than the weather.

However, in the end it was all very simple. Waiting until a commotion of unusual intensity occurred on the street to cover any slight noise, I cautiously turned the knob and opened the door some two inches. Just as we had figured, the noise had drawn them to the window and the slight creak of the door as it opened went unnoticed. Nor was it noted throughout the meeting that the door was not securely closed.

Alexander Stokilitzky, a Russian, sent here for propaganda purpose, was speaking. He was the guiding spirit of the meeting throughout and he also was the recognized chairman. They all were standing at the window looking down into the street below. Lloyd a little apart from the others. "There, my brothers," Stokilitzky was saying in his booming voice, "there you have an example of the significance of mob outbreaks. The mob rules the city on this day. Does any one attempt to dissuade them? They will be trampled under foot like a dog. It is proof of what power is possessed by the people when they care to use it. It should be as an inspiration to the leaders gathered here—a true vision of what can be expected on the day our cause becomes successful."

## Stokilitzky the Leader

There were murmurs of approval and all turned again to the straight-backed chairs which had been pulled about the office desk in the center of the room.

Around that table then were sitting the persons who gave communism its first impetus in the United States. For

until that time no organization had been perfected or even planned and no movement, however appealing, can grow without some sort of crystallized effort.

There was, first, at the head of the table Stokilitzky, who later became secretary of the Russian Federation of the Communist Party of America. This man had been sent here by Trotsky for the express purpose of spreading propaganda and furthering the communist idea throughout America. He had been sent here to work up class hatred, to create unrest in the labor classes, and by any means possible to generate a feeling of hatred against the government among the working classes to such a point that revolution would result. Stokilitzky stayed for a time in New York, moving in the latter part of 1918 to Chicago. Here he lived for several months on South Kedzie avenue near Roosevelt road. He was later arrested in Detroit, where charges of spreading revolutionary propaganda were brought against him, ending in deportation to Russia, where he now holds office as head of the emigration department.

## Others at the Meeting

Sitting next to him was William Bross Lloyd, for many years prominent in socialist work. When the Russian revolution broke out he associated himself with the bolsheviks or communist movement. The others present were: Dennis Bell, a Detroit man, who later became a member of the executive committee of the Communist party and who is now lecturing on "Communism" throughout the country. Isaac Ferguson, a Chicago lawyer, who after serving a year in Sing Sing for advocating revolution, gave up the Communist idea in disgust and is now practicing law in Chicago. Joseph Stilson, another Chicago man, who after being indicted in Philadelphia for violation of the espionage act, jumped his bond and fled the country.

Joseph Kowalsky, former secretary of the Polish federation of the Socialist party, Kowalsky was one of the men most prominent in the Communist movement. Four years ago he was deported to Russia from Chicago.

In 1922 he was sent back by Communist leaders in Russia, was smuggled into the country and delivered important papers and instructions to the leaders in New York. Department of Justice agent arrested him there and he was sentenced to serve one year in the Federal penitentiary at Atlanta for fraudulent entry into the United States. He concluded his term some months ago and is now awaiting deportation a second time. (Continued, 1924, by Chicago Daily News Co.)

(The next installment of this series will be published tomorrow.)

# CHARGES ALIENATION OF DEAD WIFE'S LOVE

Man Sues for \$250,000, Saying

Defendants Got Property

From Spouse

By the Associated Press.  
COLORADO SPRINGS, Colo., Oct. 17.—Alleging alienation of the affections of his wife, who died in Torrington, Conn., a week ago, John Mahon, in a suit on file here seeks \$250,000 damages from S. H. Wadhams of Torrington, Atkins, Indianapolis saw factory, Clara Wadhams and E. Dugan of Colorado Springs. Mahon, who owns a other property here, charged "four brought" about the death of his wife, and his wife forced her to become a half of her property several business. Mahon is 60 years of age. Tuesday.

## Canadians

HALIFA

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Nosa

race

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ONCE ONLY  
EACH SEASON

Male

Department of Justice,

Bureau of Investigation.

POST OFFICE BOX 455  
CHICAGO ILLINOIS

61-5684-

*out file*

October 14, 1924.

DIRECTOR,  
Bureau of Investigation,  
Department of Justice,  
Washington, D.C.

Dear Sir:                    ATTENTION - MR. HOOVER

Attached hereto find clippings from  
the Chicago Daily News of Tuesday, October 14, 1924,  
entitled: "RED" PLOTTERS IN AMERICA".

This is the first of a series of articles  
written by JACOB SPOLANSKY, former Special Agent of  
this Bureau, ~~relative to this subject~~. As subsequent  
articles appear you will be furnished with clippings  
thereof.

Yours very truly,

PHILIP HAMLIN  
Agent in Charge.

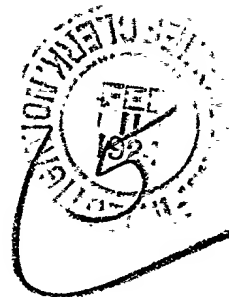
Dictated by:  
Agent James O. Peyronnin/KEB  
Enclosures-5.

"RED" Plotters in America" by former agent Jacob Spolansky  
will be found in Bureau file-61-5684.

W

Department of Justice,  
Bureau of Investigation.

CHICAGO, ILLINOIS,  
P.O. BOX 455.



February 7th, 1924.

WM. J. BURNS, ESQ.,  
Director, Bureau of Investigation,  
Department of Justice,  
Washington, D. C.

ATTENTION MR. RUSSELL.

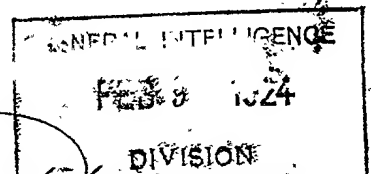
Dear Sir:

In compliance with instructions con-  
tained in your letter of the 29th ult., initialed  
JAR/MLH, to again submit my resignation, I respect-  
fully beg leave to submit same to become effective  
at the close of business March 7th, 1924.

Assuring you of my appreciation of  
your courtesy in granting me the full thirty days  
leave of absence, I beg to remain

Yours respectfully,

*Jacob Spolansky*  
JACOB SPOLANSKY,  
Special Agent.



JS:EMC

RECORDED & INDEXED

RECORDED & INDEXED

FEB 14 1924

PERSONNEL	
FILES	
BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION	
FEB 9 1924 A.M.	
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE	
HOOVER	FILE
RUSSELL	
AUBREY	

*Accepted 2/11/24  
mm  
BJS*

JAN:1127

February 11, 1924.

Mr. Jacob Spolanaky,

P. O. Box 455,

Chicago, Ill.

Dear Sir:

I have your letter of the 7th instant in which you tender your resignation as Special Agent, Bureau of Investigation, Department of Justice, to take effect at the close of business March 7th, 1924, and same is hereby accepted as tendered.

Very truly yours,

(signed) H. M. Daugherty  
Attorney General.

JAB/LLT.

January 29, 1924.

Mr. Jacob Spolansky,

P.O. Box 455,

Chicago, Ill.

Dear Sir:

With reference to your resignation submitted under date of January 23, 1924, to become effective at the close of business January 31st, you are advised that in view of the fact that you have had but five days leave of absence in two years, I am granting you the full thirty days, commencing from January 31st, for which you should submit a leave slip.

It will be necessary that you submit your resignation again, same to become effective at the expiration of this thirty days' leave, at the close of business on March 7, 1924.

Very truly yours,

  
Director.

MAILED

JAN 30 1924

PERSONNEL RECORDS	
BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION	
JAN 31 1924 P.M.	
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE	
	FILE

*Noted*  
*JAN 31 1924*

WJB-L

January 28, 1924.

RECORDED

Mr. Jacob Spolansky,  
P. O. Box 455,  
Chicago, Illinois.

My dear Mr. Spolansky:

I beg to acknowledge receipt of your letter of January 23, 1924, in which you tender your resignation to take effect January 31, 1924.

We, of course, are very sorry to lose your services but sincerely hope that in your new undertaking you will find it as pleasant and profitable as you did with the Government.

Wishing you every success, I am

Yours very sincerely,

Director.

JAN 31 1924

Department of Justice,  
Bureau of Investigation.

CHICAGO, ILLINOIS,  
P.O. BOX 455.

January 23, 1924.

PERSONAL

WM. J. BURNS, ESQ.,  
Director, Bureau of Investigation,  
Department of Justice,  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

Attached hereto please find resignation of Special Agent JACOB SPOLANSKY of this office, tendered today and effective at the close of business January 31, 1924.

As to his leave of absence, of course under the rules and regulations I appreciate the fact that he is entitled to but two and one-half days, but in view of the fact that this agent has had but five days annual leave of absence in the past two years, I feel that this matter should be given the fullest consideration.

Yours very truly,

*James P. Rooney*

JAMES P. ROONEY,  
Agent in Charge.

*Grant him 30 days*

*JPR*

JPR:MMC

Read by

JAN 25 1924

WM. J. Burns.

PERSONNEL	
FEB 1 1924	RECORDED
BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION	
JAN 31 1924 P. M.	
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE	
DIRECTOR HOOVER AHERN RUSSELL	FILE



Department of Justice,

Bureau of Investigation.

CHICAGO, ILLINOIS,  
P.O. BOX 455.

January 23, 1924.

PERSONAL

WM. J. BURNS, ESQ.,  
Director, Bureau of Investigation,  
Department of Justice,  
Washington, D. C.

My dear Mr. Burns:

I hereby respectfully beg to tender my  
resignation as Special Agent of this Bureau, effective at  
close of business January 31st, 1924.

In connection therewith I desire to state  
that I regret very much to sever my association with this  
Bureau under your leadership, but I feel that it will be to  
my greater financial advantage, having received an offer from  
the CHICAGO DAILY NEWS to write a series of articles on the  
radical situation in the United States. I anticipate entering  
the service of this newspaper on February 1st, 1924.

You may rest assured, however, that anything  
I write will in no way embarrass the Department; on the  
contrary, I believe it will be of benefit to the Bureau, as  
well as the public at large.

As to such leave of absence as I may be  
entitled to, I will leave that to your discretion, but in  
passing I wish to state that during the years of 1922 and  
1923, I did not receive over five days annual leave of  
absence.

Assuring you of my lasting loyalty and  
trusting that if at any time I may be of service to you,  
you will not hesitate to call upon me, I beg to remain

Yours respectfully,

*Jacob Spolansky*

JACOB SPOLANSKY,  
Special Agent.

JS:MMC

RECORDED INDEXED	
BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION	
JAN 24 1924 P.M.	
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE	
DIRECTOR HOOVER ADMIN GENERAL	FILE

Read by

JAN 25 1924

WM. J. Burns.

1. Spolanaky, Jacob  
(Surname) (Given name) (Initial)

2. Department Justice

3. Bureau Investigation

4. Field Service n

5. (a) Field Station Chicago  
(b) Subdivision \_\_\_\_\_  
(c) City or town Chicago State Ill.

6. Pay-roll title Special Agent

7. Customary office title n n

DO NOT WRITE IN THIS SPACE

a

b

c

d

8. (a) Number of regular working hours of the position, per day Minimum 7; per week \_\_\_\_\_  
(b) If this is not a full-time position, state percentage of time employed per day \_\_\_\_\_; or per week \_\_\_\_\_  
(c) If night work, wholly or in part, state the hours: From \_\_\_\_\_ m. to \_\_\_\_\_ m.
9. If this is not an all-year-round position, state approximate number of days employed each year \_\_\_\_\_  
During what months \_\_\_\_\_
10. If the employee receives compensation from any other branch of the Federal Government, or from any city, county, or State government, state the position held and the compensation \_\_\_\_\_
11. Present rate of pay, exclusive of bonus \$ 7.00 per day; bonus \$ 185.00 per annum.
12. Rate of pay, exclusive of bonus, on January 1, 1923, \$ 7.00 per day; bonus \$ 185.00 per annum.
13. If the employee receives overtime pay, state the rate No
14. Title of appropriation or fund from which basic compensation is paid Detection & Prosecution of Crimes
15. Indicate by an "X" in the proper box any of the following allowances received, in addition to salary or wages: ☐ Quarters;  
☐ 3 meals per day; ☐ 2 meals per day; ☐ 1 meal per day; ☐ Subsistence of rations in kind; ☐ Uniform; ☐ Laundry; ☐ Fuel;  
☐ Light; ☐ Heat. If cash allowances are made for any of these items, state which items and the amounts per annum \_\_\_\_\_  
Per diem in lieu of subsistence when absent from headquarters
16. Indicate what special equipment, if any, the employee is required by law or regulation to furnish at his own expense, and the approximate annual maintenance cost to the employee:  
Kind of equipment None; annual cost, \$ \_\_\_\_\_
17. Extent of employee's education. (Place an "X" in the box before the highest grade or year.)  
(a) Elementary school; years ☐ 1 ☐ 2 ☐ 3 ☐ 4 ☐ 5 ☐ 6 ☐ 7 ☒ 8  
(b) High school; years ☐ 1 ☐ 2 ☐ 3 ☒ 4  
(c) Business school; years ☐ 1 ☐ 1 1/2 ☐ 2 ☐ 2 1/2 ☐ 3 School  
(d) College: Name University of Zurich Switzerland-Hamilton, Ill.; years ☐ 1 ☐ 2 ☒ 3 ☐ 4  
(e) Post-graduate work: Kind \_\_\_\_\_; years ☐ 1 ☐ 2 ☐ 3  
(f) Correspondence courses: Kind \_\_\_\_\_; number of lessons \_\_\_\_\_; number completed \_\_\_\_\_
18. Description of work. (Describe the various tasks performed, making the description of each as detailed as space will permit. Use a paragraph for each task and number the paragraphs. In the column at the right state the estimated percentage of the total time—in the course of a day, month, or year—given to each task.)

1. Shadowing subjects of investigation.

2. Locating and interviewing subjects, witnesses or informants.

3. Examination of evidence (documentary, etc.)

4. Conferences with agent in charge or other agents.

5. Travel.

6. Preparation of reports and correspondence.

7. Study and research.

Owing to nature of work performed, agent is unable to state percentage of time given to each task.

19. Does employee work under immediate supervision, or to a large extent upon his own responsibility? (Describe fully.)

Under immediate supervision of agent in charge of district as to general work, but in operations individual responsibility and discretion must be exercised by employee.

20. Do the duties involve direction or supervision of the work of other employees? \_\_\_\_\_  
If so, describe the nature of the direction or supervision and give the number and classes of employees directed or supervised.

in planning or executing detection of criminals and preparation of evidence for prosecution, frequently necessary to supervise other employees of same grade, designed to assist in the case, number will vary according to necessity.

21. How long have the employee's duties been substantially as described above? SINCE PRESENT APP'T.

22. I hereby certify that to the best of my knowledge and belief the answers to the foregoing questions are correct.

May 14., 1923.  
(Date)

James P. Rooney  
(Signature of Preparing Officer)

Agent in Charge  
(Title)

23. I have read the foregoing and I agree to it except as follows:

No exceptions.

Jacob Spolansky  
(Signature of Employee)

THE FOLLOWING TO BE FILLED OUT BY THE HEAD OF THE FIELD OFFICE OR STATION

24. Indicate by an "X" in the proper spaces below the qualifications and personal traits considered important for the satisfactory performance of the duties of this position:

	HIGH DEGREE	AVERAGE	NOT ESSENTIAL
Judgment	X		
Accuracy	X		
Initiative (originality and resourcefulness)	X		
Trustworthiness (dependability)	X		
Speed (quickness)	X		
Physical Qualities (strength and endurance)	X		

EDUCATIONAL TRAINING		
	ESSENTIAL	DESIRABLE BUT NOT ESSENTIAL
College		X
High School		X
Common School	X	

TECHNICAL EDUCATION: If essential, kind and extent \_\_\_\_\_

EXPERIENCE: If essential, kind and extent Investigative work  
and familiarity with Federal law  
and procedure.

25. I hereby certify that I have read the foregoing and that, to the best of my knowledge and belief, the statements made are accurate and complete. In my judgment the compensation of this position should be in a range from \$ 8.00 to \$ 12.00

May 14., 1923.  
(Date)

James P. Rooney  
(Signature of head of field office or station)

Agent in Charge  
(Title)

CBS-SEP

March 31, 1923.

Mr. Jacob Spolansky,

Special Agent, Bureau of Investigation,

Department of Justice.

Sir:-

Your compensation is hereby increased from Seven Dollars (\$7.00) a day to Seven Dollars and Fifty-one Cents (\$7.51) a day, commencing April 1, 1923, and continuing until the close of business June 30, 1923, when it will revert to Seven Dollars (\$7.00) per day, plus the bonus. During the period mentioned, payment of the bonus will be suspended.

Respectfully,

(Signed) E. A. Tamm

Attorney General.

Chicago December 20, 1921.

MEMORANDUM TO JACOB SPOLANSKY:

Complying with instructions from the Director to the effect that he wishes to be advised as to the special qualifications of the Agents and Employees of this office, it is desired that you fill in below the questions set forth, so that I may be in a position to make proper reply.

1. Description of positions previously held, indicating trade, etc., and special qualifications you have developed in such positions.

Intelligence Division of the U.S. War Department.

Exclusively engaged in investigation of radical activities

Held positions with several newspapers as a correspondent.

Previously engaged in chemical and pharmaceutical trade.

Held diploma as assistant pharmacist.

2. Have you any knowledge of finger print work? If so, to what extent?

Have a general knowledge of same, altho never utilized

from a practical standpoint.

3. (a) Do you understand and speak any foreign language, or languages? If so, specify.  
(b) Do you read and write such language, or languages?  
(c) Could your services be utilized to an advantage in translation work?

(a) I understand and speak Russia, Polish, Ukranian, Croatian,

Servian, Bulgarian, Bohemian, Slovak, Jewish and German.

(b) I read all the above with the exception of Jewish, and write Russian, Servian, Ukranian.

(c) Yes, in all languages enumerated in Sec.A. with the exception of Jewish and German.

Please advise as to any other qualifications which you think might be of interest to the director.

Have credit for two years' attendance at law school.

It is further requested that you fill in the above and return at once.

*James C. Rooney*  
Agent in Charge.

*Jacob Spolansky*

48

November 5, 1921

See letter of this date from James P. Rooney

JACOB SPOLANSKY  
Special Agent  
Chicago District

Address	1900 W. Division Street,
Age.	32 years
Married	Yes
Children:	One
Education:	High School: 2½ years University
Language	Russian, Polish, Jewish, Ukranian, Servian, Bulgarian, Croatian, German Bohemian
Last Employed:	Advertising solicitor for Russian Post a Local Russian newspaper and Russian Word, a New York Russian paper. Military Intelligence War Department, Central Department.
Appointed in Bureau.	July 18, 1919
Original Compensation:	\$5.00 per day
Dates of Increases	Jan. 1, 1920.....\$7.00 per day
Personal appearance:	Medium

General Estimate  
by  
Agent in Charge James P. Rooney.

Industry, efficiency and general adaptability, Good.  
I would say that this agent is good, in so far as radical work  
is concerned; however, on general work I can only say that he  
is fair.

Department of Justice

Bureau of Investigation

15 PARK ROW, 14TH FLOOR

NEW YORK, N. Y.

Sept. 8, 1921.

*W. J. Spolansky*

MR. WILLIAM J. BURNS,  
Director, Bureau of Investigation,  
Department of Justice,  
Washington, D.C.

Dear Sir:

This is to acknowledge receipt of your letter of Sept. 8, 1921, initialed WJB-AS, concerning Special Agent Jacob Spolansky of the Chicago office.

In reply thereto I desire to state that I have always had a high regard for Agent Spolansky's services on the particular assignment that he has been engaged upon in the City of Chicago during the period that he has been with this bureau. His work has always been satisfactory to me.

I never had any serious complaint, originating with me, against Agent Spolansky; there have been certain rumors and charges which emanated from the Intelligence branch of the bureau at Washington, my attention being called to them. I was always unable to obtain any evidence supporting the charges referred to.

The position that I was in was such that while I was satisfied with his services and conduct, I was very much under the impression that the bureau office at Washington was not and they were in a much better position than I to know of any misconduct on the part of this agent for the reason that they were in direct touch with very confidential informants whom I never had met or never would have the opportunity or chance to meet. It was on account of this, in as much as Spolansky's services were not absolutely indispensable, that I stated in my letter to the bureau of June 29, 1921, the paragraph you incorporate in your letter to me of Sept. 8, 1921.

Mr. Burns

Division, Radical

Subject Agent Spolansky

Remarks N. Y.

Follow up.

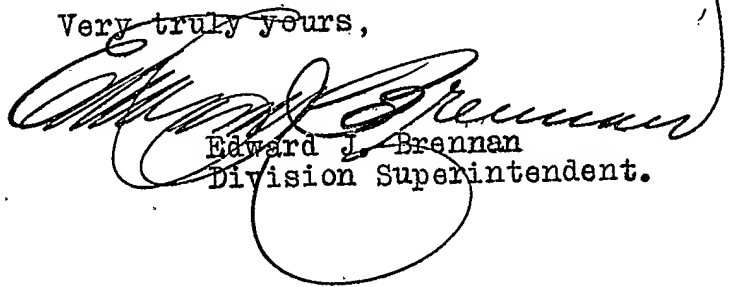
9/15/21

File No.

D. J.

It is my personal opinion that Special Agent Spolansky is and has been loyal, his services have been satisfactory, and the charges made against him have been unfounded, and for these reasons, if he still maintains his present efficiency he should be retained in the service of the bureau.

Very truly yours,

A large, stylized handwritten signature in dark ink, which appears to read "Edward J. Brennan". The signature is written over the typed name and title.

Edward J. Brennan  
Division Superintendent.

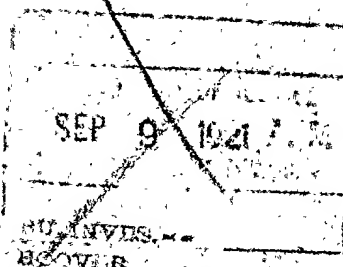
EJB/DD



WJB-AS

September 8, 1921.

Edward J. Brennan, Esq.,  
Division Superintendent,  
Box 241, City Hall Station,  
New York, N. Y.



Dear Sir:

Your letter of June 29th, 1921 referring to Special Agent Jacob Spolansky of the Chicago office, has been called to my attention by Mr. Hoover, with whom I understand you have had several conversations. An investigation of the complaint made against Mr. Spolansky has been made and I fail to find any substantial grounds for relieving him from service at the present. I am informed that you have considered the work of Agent Spolansky satisfactory but on reading your letter of June 29th, 1921 I have noted particularly the following statement:

"I do not think that I should bear the responsibility any longer for the retention of Special Agent Spolansky in this service. As far as I am concerned he can be relieved and I so recommend."

My purpose in writing you is to ascertain whether or not, in view of the fact that the information secured in the investigation of the charges against Agent Spolansky is of insignificant consequence, your recommendation of June 29th still stands.

Very truly yours,

Director.

## Department of Justice,

ADDRESS REPLY TO DIRECTOR,  
BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION,  
AND REFER TO INITIALS.

Bureau of Investigation,

Washington.

September 2, 1921.

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. BURNS

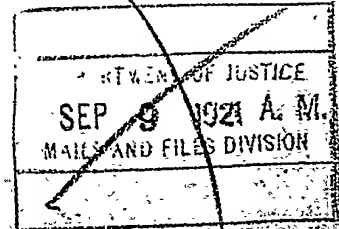
In re

JACOB SPOLANSKY

31 yrs. of age,

Chicago, Ill.

(naturalized subject of Jewish extraction)

Subject for removal from service.Application: Filed Feb. 20, 1919. Appointed July 19, 1919Education: High School, Law School and versed in following languages:

Russian, Ukrainian, Croatian, Polish, Bulgarian,  
Serbian, Hebrew and German.

References: (Applicant had one year's experience with M. I. D.)

Major Crockett: Valuable investigator among Russian Jewish rabid element says the Major, stating applicant is intelligent.

CAPTAIN GEORGE P. BROWN confirms statement of Major Crockett.

Special Agent Loula says applicant is very valuable man, because of his ability to speak several languages.

Officer Froenicke recommends applicant highly.

B. Plavnick recommends applicant highly.

Agent Mindak who interviewed applicant and references stated that all were first class and that officials of Military Intelligence recommended him highly.

Acting Div. Supt. Barry recommends applicant highly.

Complaint:

By Harry M. Wicks (affidavit July 6, 1921) reporting that he visited Spolansky at his home, 1900 West Division St., Chicago, and was asked in reference to meeting of Nov. 11, 1919 in the office of New Majority. Margolis was present and stated he believed the story was worked up by operative of Thiel's Detective Agency.

Wicks (Informant for FUBERSHAW, Head of Intelligence Dept. for Chicago Steel.)

Memo, for Mr. Burns, re Agt. Spolansky, -2- GPO 9/2/21

Wicks asserts that Spolansky offered to get in touch with Flannigan. (Flannigan is connected with the Thiel Agency, and likewise Margolis.)

This information from Wicks was furnished the Department from a confidential source of which the file contains no substantiation in any respect.

Reply of Mr. Brennan 7/7/21.

Mr. Brennan states that Wicks was one member of the five original committee of the Communist Party of America and who, confidentially, gave this office indirectly very valuable information concerning the Communist Party in the fall of 1919.

Mr. Brennan states that this liar (Wicks) caused him considerable annoyance and that it was his opinion that it was a frame up to make it appear that the A. F. of L. was behind the radical movement.

Mr. Brennan states that he was very much aggrieved and perturbed upon being advised that an informant of the D. of J. had been in Chicago and had not endeavored to get in touch with him either directly or indirectly. However, he was informed that the informant did not fail to get in touch with large corporations in Chicago to whom he imparted the information that he was the Government's Confidential Informant, etc.

June 29, 1921, Mr. Brennan refers to conference with Mr. Rich who reported the charges against Spolansky. Mr. Brennan states he knew several of Spolansky's relatives were attached to the Thiel Det. Agency and that Spolansky was some time prior to his entrance upon service for the Govt.

Mr. Brennan states he conferred with Spolansky and he absolutely denied any connection with the Thiel Agency.

Mr. Brennan states during the raids of Jan. 1920 Spolansky rendered very valuable services as an interpreter and is considered as A-1 along his line of investigation.

Mr. Brennan further states that in view of fact that information was submitted by a source considered reliable and that the information is considered correct by the Intelligence Branch of the Bureau and of the fact that he is handicapped in his investigation owing to inability to get real facts, and refusing to further bear responsibility concerning the retention of Agent Spolansky in the service, he recommends that he be relieved from service.

No personal statement from Spolansky is recorded and according to file charge is not substantiated.

## Department of Justice

### Bureau of Investigation

588 FEDERAL BUILDING

CHICAGO, ILL.

June 29th, 1921.

LEWIS J. BAILEY, Esq.,  
Chief, Bureau of Investigation,  
Department of Justice,  
Washington, D.C.

Re: Jacob Spolansky

Dear Sir:-

Special Agent, Chicago Office.

Last fall when I was in Washington in a conversation with Mr. Ruch on general intelligence matters we talked on several confidential things. He advised me then that Special Agent Spolansky of this office was charged in a report made by a very reliable confidential informant of being attached to the Thiele Detective Agency. On my return to Chicago at that time I made a survey of the situation and endeavored to secure the evidence that this was true, without exciting any suspicion or causing any prejudice against this Agent, but without success. I had a personal conference with Spolansky who denied absolutely being attached to this Detective Agency for some time prior to entering this service, which was in August, 1919.

Spolansky having to my knowledge an uncle and a couple of brothers and some other relatives in the employ of this Detective Agency caused me to think that the informant got his name confused with his relatives who were in the employment of Thiele, and it is for this reason that I did not call attention to the Chief of the Bureau at that time.

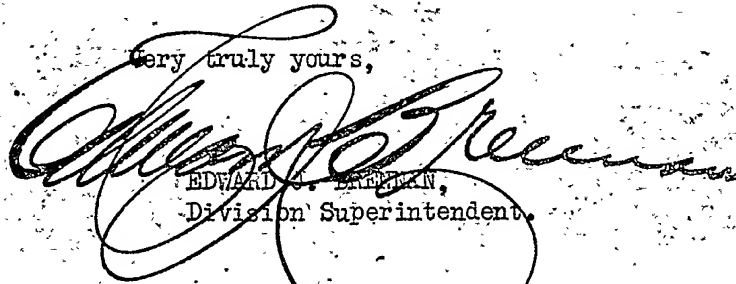
On my recent visit to Washington, the first part of the present month, I again had a personal talk with Mr. Ruch on official matters, when he advised me that he was under the impression that thru their confidential informant, Spolansky, it was reported was charged with "shaking-down" aliens, just how and for what purpose wasn't made clear. Since my return to Chicago I have looked into this matter and have had another conference with Special Agent Spolansky, concerning this, all of which he denies absolutely, stating that there is not the possible chance of any foundation of fact that he ever even as much as intimated such a thing to any alien, either directly or indirectly, and that it is an absolute falsehood.

During the months of the investigation of the Communist Party in Chicago and immediate vicinity and the endeavoring to secure evidence against aliens for deportation, particularly those who were arrested in the so-called "raids", January 2nd, 1920, Spolansky rendered valuable service. He is a very good interpreter of the Russian language - reads,

writes, translates and speaks this language fluently. In work of this kind I doubt if he has his equal in this country. Aside from this kind of work he does not even rank near an ordinary Agent on general work of the Bureau.

I do not know the source of this information and have not the remotest idea where it could have originated. Of course you will readily see that I am handicapped in getting at the real facts. In view of all the circumstances inasmuch as the confidential informant is considered very reliable and that it is more than likely that his information is considered correct by the Intelligence Branch of the Bureau at Washington, I do not think that I should bear the responsibility any longer for the retention of Special Agent Spolansky in this service. As far as I am concerned he can be relieved and I so recommend.

Very truly yours,



EDWARD J. BRENNAN,  
Division Superintendent.

EJB:VD

Copy to Mr. J.E. Hoover,  
Special Assistant to the Attorney General.

OFFICE OF  
DIVISION SUPERINTENDENT

TELEPHONE, HARRISON 4700  
POST OFFICE BOX 455

Department of Justice  
Bureau of Investigation  
588 FEDERAL BUILDING  
CHICAGO, ILL.

*Confidential*

July 7, 1921.

MR. LEWIS J. BAILEY,  
Chief, Bureau of Investigation  
Department of Justice,  
Washington, D.C.

Dear Sir:

RE: JACOB SPOLANSKY

Adverting to previous correspondence concerning Special Agent Spolansky of this office I am enclosing you herewith copy of an affidavit of one Harry M. Wicks under date of January 20, 1920, and also a photostat copy of a report made by an alleged informant under date of Nov. 12, 1919.

Wicks was one of the members of the five or original committee of the Communist Party of America and who, confidentially, gave this office indirectly very valuable information concerning the Communist Party in the fall of 1919.

The report (photostat copy herein referred to) was made by the famous confidential informant [redacted] of this district.

b2  
b7D

I am not going to take up your time to explain what annoyance this liar caused me during the arduous months of the fall of 1919; this report from the first letter of the first paragraph down through the last letter of the last word is an absolute, downright, unequivocal falsehood. There never was such a meeting - some of the men named by this falsifier in paragraph 6 page 2 of his lying report were dead; some were never even in the city of Chicago and others did not know anything about such a meeting.

It is my opinion that it was a frame up report to make it appear that the American Federation of Labor was behind the radical movement and cause the interests and directors of industries

in this and other districts to become much alarmed so that certain private agencies would of course be benefited by it.

The J. Margolis mentioned in the Wicks affidavit is a relative through marriage to Special Agent Jacob Spolansky of this office. Margolis was, and I believe is at present, in the employ of the Thiel Detective Agency.

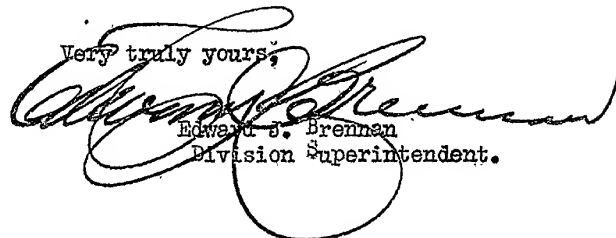
These papers are forwarded to you for your information.

In passing I just cannot refrain from relating that after my experience this afternoon on this matter I was disheartened very much aggrieved and perturbed upon being advised, at this late date, that the confidential informant of the Department of Justice had visited this city some year and a half ago and did not call on me - did not in any way, shape or manner endeavor to get in touch with me directly or indirectly. I suppose he was instructed not to get in touch with me but I learned that he did meet, confer with and get in touch with certain attaches of large corporations in this city to whom he imparted the information that he was the Government's confidential informant etc. I feel very much embarrassed and really cannot find words to express to you my feelings concerning this matter. During the past administration I had every reason to believe that I was held in high esteem and had the confidence of everybody in the bureau and the Department. I am absolutely certain and feel satisfied that I can without the slightest trouble make known to the Honorable Attorney General Daugherty who I am and what I have been as to my efficiency, capability and last but not least honesty, loyalty and dependability.

I assume that you can readily see the embarrassment that I have been placed in owing to the actions of this so-called reliable confidential informant. If his actions here and elsewhere have caused division superintendents to be placed in this embarrassing position how do we know but what, through other channels, he may have left the impression on the Attorney General and his able assistants that we in the field are not dependable.

I would thank you to please give me an expression of your views concerning this matter as I certainly must say that I feel aggrieved.

Very truly yours,

  
Edward J. Brennan  
Division Superintendent.

EJB/DD

RECEIVED

JUL 6 1921

Division Superintendent  
DEPT. OF JUSTICE - CHICAGO

C O P Y

City of Chicago }  
County of Cook } SS

I, Harry M. Ticks, being first duly sworn, make the following statement:

"On or about Wednesday, January 14th, 1920, I visited the home of Jacob Spolansky, 1900 West Division Street, (as per arrangements made previous day with him at Smolny Institute, 1219 Blue Island Avenue); when I arrived there he and his family and J. Margolis\* were present. We first had some general conversation and then they asked me about a meeting that was reported to have occurred on November 11th, 1919, in the Office of the New Majority, official organ of the A.F. of L., edited by one Robert W. Buck. After I had told them I didn't believe there ever had been any such meeting, they stated they believed it was a myth. I then went into an adjoining room with Margolis, and he told me certain parties whom he did not mention by name would be willing to pay big money to make the story stick. He further stated that I was reported to have been there at said meeting. He also said that in his opinion the whole story was worked up by an operative for the Thiel Detective Agency, and that Thiel's could use that sort of a story to advantage with their clients in obtaining fees for services. He offered to get in touch with one Flanagan\*\* and make an appointment between him and myself. I then left this house alone.

(signed) Harry M. Ticks

Subscribed and sworn to before me  
this 20th day of January A.D., 1920.

( Seal )

Otis G. Washburn  
Notary Public

- (\* Spolansky is an agent of the Federal Department of Justice.  
\*\* Margolis is said to be a detective in the employ of the Thiel Detective Service.  
\*\*\* Flanagan is one of the managers of the Thiel Detective Service, 53 West Jackson Blvd. )



November 11, 1939.

At a meeting which lasted nearly all night held at the office of the New Majority and which was attended by all the officers of the Communist Party except Fraind and Ruthenberg, all the local officials of the Communist Labor Party, all the I. W. . . Secretaries, but Kaywood, and Whitehead, who were afraid of being shadowed, all the Officials of the Lettish, Finnish and German Communists and Communist Labor party branches, and some of the leading Russian Reds - the following plan of propaganda was decided upon:

On account of the country-wide prosecutions against the Communist Party, and the Union of Russian Workers - The Communist Labor Party shall function as the propaganda agency to bring about the Revolution in America. The Communist Party, Union of Russian Workers and some of the extreme radical publications, shall publish articles which on the face of it shall appear hostile towards the Communist Labor Party. The speakers of the extreme radical organizations shall in their lectures condemn the platform of the Communist Labor Party. That the following publications shall be used as the official propaganda organs for the Communist Labor Party:- The Voice of Labor, The Class Struggle, The Liberator, The Ohio Socialist, The Truth, The Workers World, The Forge, The Oakland World, The Novi Mir, Elora, Das Echo and Die Volkszeitung. New York City shall be the Central Headquarters of the Communist Labor Party. Every effort shall be made to win the owners of the New York Call and the Jewish Vorwaerts over to the Communist Labor Party, and if necessary, money shall be spent for that purpose. To raise a large propaganda fund the initiation fee of the Communist Labor Party shall be \$1.00 and each new member shall be compelled to pay six months' dues at the rate of 50 cents per month in advance.

That Charles Baker from Hamilton, Ohio, Mrs. Margaret Provey from Akron, Wagenknecht and Eatterfield from Cleveland, Ohio, Max Bedacht, now in New York, Arthur Proctor from Chicago, Jack Carney from Duluth, Minn., Mrs. Ella R. Bloor from New York, Robert Minor from San Francisco, and John Snyder from Oakland, California, shall be carried on the payroll as organizers. That Eugene Debs, Katha O'Hare, Bill Haywood, Robert H. Buck, Canteri Knorteva, Mother Jones, Fred Blossom, Tom Mooney, James Maurer, Doctor Elizabeth Baer, Jim Larkin, and Informant shall be accepted as Honorary Members at large.

That all propaganda for the present shall be carried on amongst the farmers and the members of the American Legion.

That Wagenknecht and Eatterfield shall have charge of the New York Headquarters of the Communist Labor Party.

That the I. W. W. shall be the recognized Labor Union. (Baker and Fargnson were opposed to mentioning the I. W. W. or any other labor organization at this time, but they lost out.)

RECEIVED

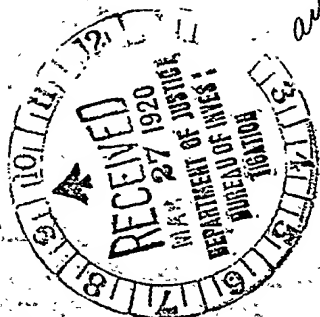
JUL 7 1939

Division Superintendent  
Office of the Bureau of Investigation

March 29, 1920

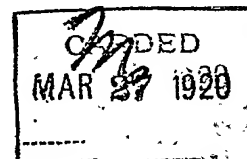
SPOLANSKY, JACOB

See memorandum to Appointment Clerk from Mr. Burke Mar. 29, 20



Department of Justice,  
Bureau of Investigation.

P.O. BOX 455  
Chicago, Ill.



March 25, 1920.

*Investigation*  
*gfs*  
*3/29/20*

FRANK BURKE, Esq.,  
Asst. Director & Chief,  
Bureau of Investigation,  
Department of Justice,  
Washington, D.C.

*S.E. 7-20*

Dear Sir:

Referring to previous correspondence concerning  
Special Agent Jacob Spolansky, it is very much  
desired that you would please have him appointed  
a regular agent and that his name be placed on  
the regular pay roll that he may receive his salary  
semi monthly.

Spolansky is in my opinion one of the best all  
around agents working on Russian matters. He has done  
wonderful work in this office.

Very truly yours,

*Edward J. Brennan*  
Edward J. Brennan  
Division Superintendent.

EJB/DD

COPY FOR TICKLER DATE.....

BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION,  
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE.

JTS-EHD

March 27, 1950.

E. J. Brennan, Esq.,  
Box No. 455,  
Chicago, Illinois.

Dear Sir:-

Your letter of the 25th instant referring to previous correspondence concerning Special Agent Jacob Spolansky received. I will see that his name is placed upon the pay roll so that he will receive his salary semi-monthly.

Very truly yours,

Assistant Director and Chief.

EJB-DB

4  
Department of Justice,  
Bureau of Investigation.

Chicago, July 19, 1919.



CASE FILE

*File*  
Frank Burke, Esq.,  
Assistant Director and Chief,  
Bureau of Investigation,  
Department of Justice,  
Washington, D. C.

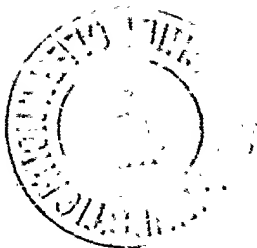
Dear Sir:

In re Jacob Spolansky  
Special Employee

Referring to Bureau letter of July 16, 1919,  
(initials JPM, JTS-HEJ) signed J. T. Suter, Acting Chief,  
concerning the appointment of Jacob Spolansky, I beg to  
state that I have this day employed him temporarily at a  
per diem of \$5.00 per day and he has this day entered  
upon the duties as Special Employee.

Very truly yours,

*William J. Brennan*  
Division Superintendent.



PJB-DB

Chicago, June 27, 1919.

J. T. Suter, Esq.,  
Acting Chief,  
Bureau of Investigation,  
Department of Justice,  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

Supplementing my letter to former Acting Chief of Bureau Allen, under date of May 6, 1919, regarding the appointment of Jacob Spolansky, who at the present time is a very valuable agent in the Department of Military Intelligence at Chicago, especially on radical situations, I wish to advise you that Major Crockett, Department Intelligence officer, has informed me that a general reduction of his force will take place on or about July 1st. He is desirous of arranging, if possible, to have Spolansky appointed to this Bureau.

In this connection your attention is called to letter addressed to me under date of May 1, 1919, by former Acting Chief of Bureau Allen, authorizing the temporary employment of Spolansky. However, reservations were made therein owing to the fact that Spolansky's salary could not be granted very promptly at the time.

I am particularly anxious to have Spolansky attached to this office, if you will acquiesce to former Acting Chief Allen's authorization to have Spolansky appointed, on or about July 1st.

Please advise me what your wishes are in this connection.

Very truly yours,

Acting Division Superintendent.

REPORT MADE BY: <b>P.P.MINDAK.</b>	PLACE WHERE MADE: <b>CHICAGO ILL.</b>	DATE WHEN MADE: <b>MARCH 3, 1919.</b>	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE: <b>FEB.28,1919.</b>
TITLE OF CASE AND OFFENSE CHARGED OR NATURE OF MATTER UNDER INVESTIGATION: <b>In re: Jacob Spolansky, Applicant for Appointment to Position of Special Agent.</b>			
STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS, EVIDENCE COLLECTED, NAMES AND ADDRESSES OF PERSONS INTERVIEWED, PLACES VISITED, ETC.: <b>AT CHICAGO:</b> <p>On February 20th, 1919, <u>Spolansky</u> filed application for appointment as Special Agent of this department and his application was given to Employe for investigation.</p> <p>Applicant is a naturalized subject of Jewish extraction having been born and raised in Kief, Russia. He came to the United States in 1909 and became fully naturalized in 1915. His parents are both dead.</p> <p>For the past year, applicant has been living at 1900 W. Division St. Prior to that, he lived for sometime at Lincoln St. &amp; Potomac Ave. He is a married man and lives with his wife and one child at the Division Street address.</p> <p>In point of education, applicant is a graduate of what is called in Europe, Gymnasium, or College of Education. He stated that while in Russia he had undertaken the study of law for two years. The full course is five years; that he also was an assistant pharmacist while in Russia.</p> <p>Since applicant's arrival in this country, he has bettered himself in point of education and has attained a good command of the English language; that he has a good command of the Russian language and the Ukrainian, which is very similar to Russian. He has a fair command of the other Russian dialects, such as Serbian, Bulgarian and Croation. These last three, he can understand, and speak to a certain extent, but cannot translate</p>			
COPY OF THIS REPORT FURNISHED TO: <b>CHICAGO OFFICE.</b>			7-877 <b>-15- 20</b>

P.P.MINDAK for February 28, 1919.

In re: Jacob Spolansky,  
Applicant for Appointment to Position of Special Agent.

or write.

Applicant speaks a little Polish, can read a little, but has not sufficient command of the Polish language to do any translation work or interpreting. He also speaks the Yiddish language. When asked whether he could speak or read the ancient Hebrew language, he stated that he can<sup>not</sup> and when stating in his application that he can speak and read Hebrew, he meant Yiddish (which is a German jargon). His knowledge of the German language is limited to what he can speak of Yiddish.

Applicant presents a very good appearance and has all the earmarks of a college graduate man, possesses apparent good judgment, appears to be shrewd and calculating. For about one year he has been employed in the Military Intelligence Department with headquarters at Central Department, War Department, 230 E. Ohio St., Chicago and was working under Major Thomas B. Crockett and Captain George P. Brown.

Employee called at the Military Intelligence headquarters and interviewed Major Crockett and Captain Geo. P. Brown. Their statements were similar.

Major Crockett stated that he used this applicant for investigation of radical movements in Chicago, particularly amongst the Russian and Russian Jewish rabid element. His services in this connection were very valuable and Major Crockett further stated that he considers applicant one of the best investigators in this connection that the Government could possibly obtain, in view of applicant's good education and intelligence. He (Major Crockett and Captain Brown) recommended applicant to this depart-



P.P.MINDAK for February 26, 1919.

In re: Jacob Spolansky,  
Applicant for Appointment to Position of Special Agent.  
ment in very high terms and stated that they could not possibly  
recommend him too highly.

Employee also interviewed Special Agent Augustus Loula  
and Police Officer August Froenicke, attached to this office,  
both of whom, have had many dealings with applicant.

Special Agent Loula, who is in charge of investigation  
of Bolsheviki activities, comes in frequent contact with applicant  
and stated that he can honestly recommend applicant as a very  
valuable man in this respect, because of his ability to speak the  
languages, his education and intelligence.

Officer Froenicke is acquainted with applicant for two  
or three years; that he made his acquaintance with applicant  
through applicant's uncle, Police Sergeant Make Mills of the  
Chicago Police Anarchist Squad and that from his experience with  
applicant, he is in a position to recommend him to this department  
and feels sure that he will be valuable in connection with investi-  
gations of radical movements.

Employee called at 1900 W. Division St., and interviewed  
one B. Plavnick, a druggist. Plavnick stated that he knows  
Spolansky since he moved into that building one year ago; that  
he has always found him respectable and never heard complaints  
of any kind made against him, never heard him make any disloyal  
remarks on war and was willing to recommend him to any branch of  
the Government.

Employee also interviewed one Dr. Wm. Goon and Dr. N.W.  
Olshan, both of whom know very little of applicant.

18

-17-

P.P.Mindak for February 28, 1919.

In re: Jacob Spolansky,  
Applicant for Appointment to Position of Special Agent.

Employee called at 2000 W. Division St., which is a saloon conducted by one Sam Kanter. Mr. Kanter however stated that he did not know and has never met Spolansky.

The same inquiries were made at a saloon on the other corner, conducted by Louis Miller. No information could be given at this place, as Miller does not know applicant.

Employee also called at the Hungarian Restaurant, 2021 W. Division St., which is a gathering place for the intelligent Jewish element for this part of the city and interviewed one J. Eincig. No information could be obtained at this place, as applicant has evidently not frequented this place.

Applicant has taken no active part in politics, as Employee ascertained from inquiry among politicians in the 16th Ward in which ward applicant resides.

Applicant admitted to Employee, that although a citizen, he has not yet registered and has never taken the time to bother about voting and that he has never taken any part whatever in politics.

Applicant, when interviewed stated that during the Liberty Loan drives, he rendered his services as a speaker in the foreign language division, specializing in the Russian and in this connection came in contact with the managers of the foreign language division, Felix Strickmans and Charles Pflaum. He also gave as additional reference one A. Friend, proprietor of a cloak store located at 327 So. State St.

Prior to applicant's employment in the Military Intelligence office he was employed as manager of a Russian newspaper called 17.

P.P. MINPAK for February 28, 1919.

In re: Jacob Spolansky,  
Applicant for Appointment to Position of Special Agent.  
"Free Russia" whose place of business is 1722 W. Chicago Ave.  
He also was employed as an advertising solicitor for a New York  
Russian paper called "The Russian World."

In view of applicant's thorough fundamental education which has been considerably improved since arriving in this country and his good command of the Russian language and its dialects, such as Ukrainian, Bulgarian and in further view of applicant's acquaintance with various Russian leaders, as well as the Russian Jewish leaders and the various radical elements, applicant would be highly qualified for investigations of Bolsheviki and radical activities. He is recommended in the very highest terms by officials of the Military Intelligence Department.

From the inquiries made, nothing could be learned that would throw any suspicion of disloyalty or dishonesty upon applicant's character.

Inquiry further shows that applicant has very little to do with neighbors, as he is hardly known in the neighborhood.

REPORT MADE BY: <b>P.P. MINDAK.</b>	PLACE WHERE MADE: <b>CHICAGO ILL.</b>	DATE WHEN MADE: <b>MARCH 3, 1919.</b>	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE: <b>FEB. 26, 1919.</b>
TITLE OF CASE AND OFFENSE CHARGED OR NATURE OF MATTER UNDER INVESTIGATION: <b>In re: Jacob Spolansky, Applicant for Appointment to Position of Special Agent.</b>			
STATEMENT OF OPERATIONS, EVIDENCE COLLECTED, NAMES AND ADDRESSES OF PERSONS INTERVIEWED, PLACES VISITED, ETC.: <b><u>AT CHICAGO:</u></b>  Employee was instructed by Special Agent Rooney to investigate the application of one <u>Jacob Spolansky</u> residing at 1900 W. Division St., Chicago, who made application for appointment to position of Special Agent, February 20th, 1919.  Employee, in connection with this application interviewed several people and detailed report will be made a day or two later when investigation is completed, in order to have one complete report.			
COPY OF THIS REPORT FURNISHED TO:  <b>CHICAGO OFFICE.</b>			

FEL-DB

Personal and  
Confidential.

March 13, 1919.

W. E. Allen, Esq.,  
Acting Chief,  
Bureau of Investigation,  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

I desire to respectfully draw your attention to the application for appointment as Special Agent of this Bureau, of Jacob Spolansky, which was forwarded to you on the 5th instant.

At this time, when the I.W.W. and Bolshevik situations in Chicago are more or less threatening, it will be extremely to our advantage to have a man like Spolansky attached to this Bureau. For this reason I wish to again respectfully urge that you give this appointment favorable consideration at your earliest convenience.

My only thought in urging this appointment is in strengthening the Bureau in Chicago. As stated in my previous letter, from my personal observations Mr. Spolansky is highly qualified for a position in this Bureau. He is unusually well qualified for the work upon which I would assign him at this time, namely, keeping the Department advised concerning the movements of I.W.W., Socialists, Anarchists, Bolsheviks and other radicals in this city.

Very truly yours,

Acting Division Superintendent.

United States Department of Justice  
Bureau of Investigation

OFFICE OF DIVISION SUPERINTENDENT  
CHICAGO

March 5, 1919.

PERSONAL AND ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~.

W. E. Allen, Esq.,  
Acting Chief,  
Bureau of Investigation,  
Washington, D. C.

*7 per*

Dear Sir:- In re Jacob Spolansky  
Applicant for Appointment.

I am enclosing herewith application for appointment as Special Agent of this Bureau of Jacob Spolansky, of 1900 N. Division St., Chicago, a present employe of the Army Intelligence Section, Chicago, and reports showing the results of an investigation made by this office.

This applicant is recommended most highly by everybody I have consulted, who would be qualified to give any information concerning his ability. Mr. Spolansky has come under my personal observation a great deal and I feel that he is qualified for a position in this Department.

If you see fit to appoint him as Special Agent, and it is my earnest request that you give this your favorable consideration, I shall immediately assign him to checking up on radical and Bolshevist movements in this city.

As I have already advised you, I have created what I term a Bolshevism department, the province of which is to keep me advised concerning radical movements in Chicago. Mr. Spolansky, I believe, would be an extremely valuable addition to the personnel of this department and for that reason I feel justified in respectfully urging you to favorably consider this appointment.

Very truly yours,

*J. J. Barry*  
Acting Division Superintendent.

Department of Justice,  
Bureau of Investigation.

*[Handwritten signature]*

PFL-DB

Chicago, May 5, 1919.

W. E. Allen, Esq.,  
Acting Chief,  
Bureau of Investigation,  
Department of Justice,  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

I desire to acknowledge receipt of your letter of May 1, 1919, initialed WEA, concerning the employment of Jacob Spolansky.

I have conferred with Mr. Spolansky and in view of the fact that he is being used at this time on some very important work for the Military Intelligence Department he has decided, and I have concurred with him in his decision, that it would be just as well if he deferred accepting an appointment in this office at this time.

In connection with what you say concerning Special Agent Kahn I desire to respectfully advise you that Kahn does not possess the same qualifications as Spolansky. The latter has an extremely wide acquaintance among the radicals of the various groups in this district. Kahn has no such acquaintances. Furthermore Spolansky is familiar with more of the foreign languages than Kahn, and I personally believe is far superior to Kahn as an investigator on general work.

I am of course very glad to concur in any suggestions you may make as to the personnel of this Bureau, but feel it is only proper you should have the above information.

Very truly yours,

*[Handwritten signature: J. J. Barry]*

Acting Division Superintendent.

PFL-DB

United States Department of Justice

Bureau of Investigation

OFFICE OF DIVISION SUPERINTENDENT  
CHICAGO

Personal and  
~~Confidential.~~

April 29, 1919.

W. E. Allen, Esq.,  
Acting Chief,  
Bureau of Investigation,  
Department of Justice,  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

With further reference to my personal and confidential letters to you under dates of March 5 and 13, 1919, in re applicant for appointment to this Bureau of Jacob Spolansky, I desire to again request you to give this appointment favorable consideration at your very earliest convenience.

It has become necessary for me to assign Special Employee A. H. Loula, who has charge of the work of our Bolshevik, Radical and Socialist department, temporarily to out of town work. His work will be generally divided among other agents of this office, and it is my desire to use Spolansky in this connection, as I have stated heretofore in my correspondence with you.

As you will note from reference to your copy of report made on Spolansky by Special Employee P. P. Mindak under date of February 28, 1919, Spolansky speaks the English, Russian and Ukrainian languages well and can handle Serbian, Bulgarian and Croation, as well as Polish and Yiddish, well enough to get along. Spolansky has in the past been of very great use to this office by submitting information which we would have found extremely difficult to obtain through any other source. This information has in every case been entirely authentic. It will be necessary in order for us to continue obtaining this information to officially connect Spolansky with this Department. I would, therefore, respectfully urge that Spolansky be officially placed on the payroll as a confidential informant at a remuneration of \$5.00 per day.

As you will note by a glance at the previous correspondence, Spolansky is most highly recommended, and I am certain that he will be a great asset to this Department. You can readily see that a confidential source of authentic



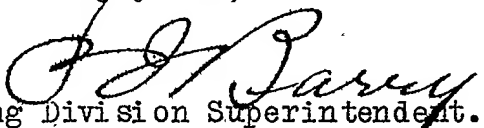
W. E. Allen, Esq.

4/29/19.

- 2 -

information among the Bolsheviks and other radicals of this city is most highly desirable.

Very truly yours,

  
Acting Division Superintendent.

WBA  
ALS

May 1, 1919.

P. J. Barry, Esq.,  
Box 455,  
Chicago, Illinois.

Dear Sir:

I have your letter of the 29th instant concerning the employment of Jacob Spolansky.

You will be authorized to employ him temporarily, but you should make it clear to him that we will not be in a position to pay his salary promptly. The very best we can hope to do is to pay salaries for the first half of May and wait a deficiency appropriation for the balance.

From what I have heard, Special Agent Kahn seems to possess about the same qualifications as Spolansky. It was for this reason I suggested that you hold him on a while.

Very truly yours,

Acting Chief.

BB:VP

Box 455

Chicago, Illinois.  
August 29th, 1919.

Frank Burke, Esq.,  
Asst. Director & Chief,  
Bureau of Investigation,  
Department of Justice,  
Washington, D.C.

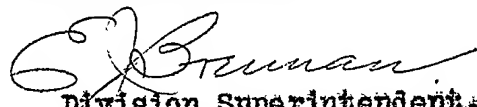
CASE FILE

Dear Sir:

I am very much pleased to receive your letter of August 19th, initialed JTS, relative to comment by the Department of State, concerning report of Agent Spolansky of this office, in re: Michael Berg alias M. Gruzenberg.

Agent Spolansky was employed to devote his time exclusively to Bolsheviki and other radical work and is constantly engaged accordingly.

Very truly yours,

  
Division Superintendent.

Spolansky, Jacob

Dec. 24, 1919.

See James D. Rooney this date.

JEH:LMR

October 21, 1924.

67-1989-2

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. MARTIN.

With regard to the attached communication addressed to the Attorney General from Mr. Judson King, Director of the National Popular Government League, referring to a series of articles appearing in a number of the newspapers of the country written by one Jacob Spolansky upon the question of radicalism, you are advised that Spolansky resigned from the service of the Bureau of Investigation in January, 1924, and his resignation was accepted to take effect as of March 7, 1924, he being granted thirty days leave of absence. Spolansky has had no access to any of the files or papers of the Bureau of Investigation since his resignation therefrom in January, 1924, and the Bureau of Investigation has had no connection, directly or indirectly, with any of the articles now appearing in the daily press written by Spolansky.

Very truly yours,

Acting Director.

Encl. 35374.

RECORDED & INDEXED

67-1989-2	
BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION	
OCT 22 1924 P.M.	
DEPT. OF JUSTICE	
	FILE

November 10, 1924.

Honorable Robt Carl White,  
Assistant Secretary of Labor,  
Washington, D.C.

Sir:

The Department desires to acknowledge the receipt of your communication of the 3rd instant, in which you make inquiry concerning one Jacob Spolansky, formerly employed as a Special Agent in the Bureau of Investigation of this Department.

You are advised that the original application for appointment as Special Agent filed by Mr. Spolansky on February 20, 1919, did not request of him information as to his citizenship. However, on November 8, 1923, Mr. Spolansky was requested to file a new application form in which that information was requested, and in answer to the question as to his present citizenship, he stated that he was a "naturalized American".

Respectfully,

For the Attorney General.

Assistant Attorney General.

RECORDED

MAILED

67-1989-3	
BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION	
NOV 11 1924 A.M.	
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE	
	FILE

DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

WASHINGTON

730-D-14308

November 3, 1924.

67-1989-3

Sir:

For use in connection with the naturalization of one, Jacob Spolansky (originally Sehpoliensky), who claims to have been commissioned as a special agent in the Bureau of Investigation of your Department on July 19, 1919, and who resigned on March 7, 1924, it would be appreciated if you would advise what statements he made at the time he received his commission as to his citizenship status.

Respectfully,



ROSE CARL WHITE,  
Acting Secretary.

The Honorable  
The Attorney General,  
Washington, D. C.

RECORDED & INDEXED

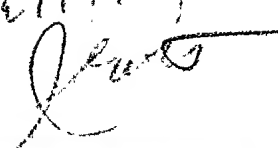
NOV 13 1924

67-1989-3

BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION	
NOV 12 1924 P.M.	
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE	
Division 1	FILE
Division 5	

NOV 5 1924 A.M.

MAILS AND FILES DIVISION
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

arr 11/10/24  


661  
June 2, 1925.MEMORANDUM FOR MR. RIDGELY:

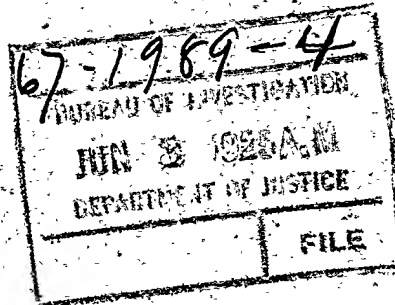
There is attached a letter from the Assistant Secretary of the Department of Labor, directed to the Attorney General, requesting information as to whether the statement in his application for appointment, filed by JACOB SPOLANSKY, that he was a "naturalized American" was a violation of the last clause of Section 79 of the Criminal Code.

JACOB SPOLANSKY was employed as a Special Employee on July 19th, 1919, his application for appointment as Special Agent having been filed February 20th, 1919. The application at that time made no inquiry as to the citizenship of the applicant. On March 20th, 1920 his appointment as Special Agent was authorized and he continued as a Special Agent until March 17th, 1924. While Mr. SPOLANSKY was a Special Agent, i.e. on November 8th, 1923, a new application was filled out by him, and on this, in a blank space for information as to present citizenship, he answered "naturalized American".

Very truly yours,

Director.

RECORDED &amp; INDEXED

encl.  
43962

JUN 3 1925



Made in presence of E.B.HARRIGAN, Special Agent, Bureau of Investigation, Department of Justice.  
Statement taken by MRS. MILDRED MERCER, Stenographer, Bureau of Investigation, Chicago.  
MAY 15, 1925.

STATE OF ILLINOIS )  
COUNTY OF COOK ) SS

JAKE SPOLANSKY, being duly sworn upon my oath, depose and say that:

I was a former Agent in the Bureau of Investigation, Department of Justice, and resigned from the Service on March 7th, 1924; that while an Agent in the Department I was assigned with other Agents to guard the person of the late President HARDING at Marion, Ohio; and that Agent DODGE was one of the Agents so assigned.

Agent WALKER was in charge at the time. On this assignment, I had occasion to be in Agent DODGE's room at the Hotel, where he was stopping and he had one or two bottles of liquor in his bag at that time, and I also saw him drink liquor from these bottles. On this particular occasion Agent DODGE offered me some liquor, but I did not take any. There were other Agents in Agent DODGE's room at that time but whose names I do not remember.

On several occasions Agent DODGE has come to Chicago on Special Assignments and during these times I have seen liquor in his bag and have also seen him drink liquor in two saloons near the Post Office Building. During my assignment to the Savannah Liquor Investigation, upon my arrival there I registered at the DeSoto Hotel, which was at the time of the trials and seeing what was going on relative to some drinking parties held in Agent's DODGE's room, I thought it best to move to another hotel and did move to the Hotel COLLINS with Agent WOLFF.

On this assignment I have seen several bottles of liquor in Agent DODGE's room at the DeSoto Hotel, which was to be drank by anybody who wanted it. On the day that I was leaving Savannah, which was on or about November 25th, I stopped in Agent DODGE's room, at which time he, together with several other Agents, were there drinking and seemed to be intoxicated and at that time he offered me a drink of whiskey which I drank. I think this is the only drink of liquor that I had in Savannah.

On or about April 24th or 25th, 1924, I was in Washington and was in Agent DODGE's room at the Burlington Hotel and at which time I saw a bottle of liquor in his bag and he was also drinking some. At this time Agents KELLEHER, DAVIS, and SPOSA were there.

I have known Agent DODGE since he first came in the Service and know him to be a very heavy drinker.

*Jake Spolansky*

Subscribed and sworn to before me  
this \_\_\_\_\_ day of May, 1925 A.D.

NOTARY PUBLIC.

JCH:LMH

February 15, 1928.

FEB  
16  
1928

*Confidential*

Mr. Francis Ralston Welsh,  
20 South 15th St.,  
Philadelphia, Pa.

Dear Mr. Welsh:

I received your communication of the 13th instant relative to Jacob Spolansky and note Mr. Spolansky's desire to return to the service of the Bureau.

Just at the present time we are unable to make any new appointments to our force due to the fact that our appropriation is obligated to the limit. However, I shall be very glad indeed to keep in mind Mr. Spolansky's desire to return in the event I can utilize his services at some date in the future.

Very truly yours,

Director.

RECORDED & INDEXED

FEB 1 1928

47-1989-5

TELEPHONES  
RITTENHOUSE 9820  
RITTENHOUSE 9821  
CABLE ADDRESS  
"RALSTON"

FRANCIS RALSTON WELSH  
INVESTMENT BONDS  
20 SOUTH FIFTEENTH STREET



*Philadelphia* February 13, 1926.

J. E. Hoover, Esq.,  
c/o Bureau of Investigation,  
Department of Justice, Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Hoover:

Jacob Spolansky was connected with the Chicago office of the D. J. from 1919 to 1924. He worked under Edward J. Brennan and James T. Rooney, both special agents of the D. J. He is now on the payroll of Mr. H. A. Jung, Commissioner of the National Clay Products Industries Association, Chamber of Commerce Building, Chicago, Ill. Mr. Jung has not been able to give him full time employment and Spolansky wishes to return to the D. J. if possible. He is the author of the "Red Trail in America". I understand he did excellent work in the Bridgman investigation. He lives at 4949 North Sawyer Avenue, Chicago. Mr. Jung has the highest opinion of Spolansky and his ability and has asked me if I would write to you on his behalf. In his present position he would have added to his valuable experience with the government.

Mr. Jung is one hundred percent American and very active in the fight against reds and disloyalists.

RECORDED & INDEXED

Sincerely,

P-P

*act. 3-15-26*

*67-1989-5*

BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION	
FEB 17 1926 P.M. 1926	
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE	
Div. One	

March 7, 1927.

United States Fidelity and Guaranty Company,  
826 Lafayette Building,  
Detroit, Mich.

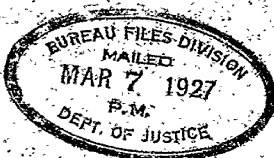
Gentlemen:

Replying to your inquiry received in  
this Bureau on the 5th instant, concerning Mr.  
Jacob Spolansky, who has applied for a bond in  
the amount of \$1,000.00 in favor of the Detroit  
Employers Association, I have to advise you that  
Mr. Spolansky was employed in this Bureau as a  
Special Agent from April 1, 1920 to March 7, 1924.

Very truly yours,

Director.

RECORDED & INDEXED



67-1989-6	
BUREAU OF L.	
MAR 8 1927	
DEPT.	FILE

## GNAWING AT THE VITALS

A number of mercantile houses have failed in the post-war period because of the elimination of liquid assets by dishonest employees.

The post-mortem conducted by the creditors may show this condition to have existed, but it is then too late.

Such a condition can be forestalled in *one way only*—a fidelity schedule bond covering all employees.

The cost is small. Write for particulars.

UNITED STATES  
FIDELITY AND GUARANTY COMPANY  
BALTIMORE, MD.



FIDELITY DIVISION

United States Fidelity and Guaranty Company

Home Office, Baltimore, Md.

Mr. E. Hoover,

U.S. Department of Justice  
Washington, D.C.

This is a request for a confidential report on one of your former employees who is applying to us for a fidelity bond guaranteeing the applicant's honesty and integrity.

On the application for bond, the applicant signed the following release, to wit:

"I hereby authorize and request any and all of my former employers and others to furnish the United States Fidelity and Guaranty Company a complete history of my services with them, together with any information they may have, concerning my personal character, habits, ability, disposition, etc., and particularly a statement of the cause of the termination of my employment, hereby releasing them from any and all liability for damages of whatsoever nature on account of furnishing the requested information."

Your reply will be treated as strictly confidential, and will be used by us solely in judging the risk.

A prompt reply will render applicant a service in procuring bond or protect some business man if bond should not be recommended.

Edward Poland

PRESIDENT

Name of Applicant Jacob Spolansky  
Bond in favor of Detroit Employers Association Amount \$ 1,000.00

QUESTIONS

ANSWERS

1 (a) The applicant claims to have been  
in your service as sp. agent  
at \_\_\_\_\_  
Is this correct? If not give dates and  
position.

From July 1923 April 1-1920  
to March 1924 march 7-1924

(b) Was he (she) bonded while in your  
employ? If so give name of company.

(b) \_\_\_\_\_

2 (a) Does the applicant gamble or use in-  
toxicating liquors to excess?

(a) \_\_\_\_\_

(b) Is his (her) character good? If not  
good give particulars

(b) \_\_\_\_\_

3 (a) Why did he (she) leave?

(a) \_\_\_\_\_

(b) If discharged or requested to resign,  
please state reason fully

(b) \_\_\_\_\_

4 (a) Did he (she) have the handling or  
custody of cash?

(a) \_\_\_\_\_

(b) Did he (she) always make prompt  
and correct settlements?

(b) \_\_\_\_\_

5 (a) Was he (she) in debt to you at any  
time during his (her) employment,  
or at the time of leaving?

(a) \_\_\_\_\_

(b) If so, give particulars of such in-  
debtedness and state whether it has  
since been paid

(b) \_\_\_\_\_

6 By whom was he (she) employed before  
entering your service? (Give address)

7 By whom was he (she) employed after  
leaving your service? (Give address)

8 Is he (she) qualified to be intrusted with  
the handling of money or to hold a posi-  
tion of trust?

Dated at \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

192

Occupation \_\_\_\_\_

Ans 3-7-27



UNITED STATES FIDELITY AND GUARANTY COMPANY,

826 Lafayette Building,

DETROIT, MICH.

Detroit 101

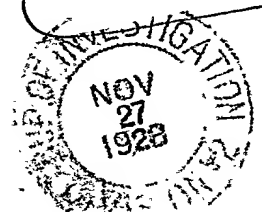
April 4-1-20

March 7-194



DES PLAINES METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH  
LEE STREET AND PARK PLACE  
DES PLAINES, ILL.

MINISTER  
WILLIAM BAILY WALTWIRE  
608 LEE ST.



Nov. 23, 1928.

67-1989-7

RECORDED

Department of Justice,  
Bureau of Investigation,  
Washington, D. C.

DEC 5 1928

BUREAU	
NOV 26	8 A. M.
Div. One	Div. Two
FILE	

Dear Sirs:

In October 1924 the Chicago Daily News printed a series of articles one of which was prefaced by the following explanation:

" This is the sixth installment of a series of articles in which Jacob Spolansky, former agent of the department of justice, reveals discoveries he made concerning activities of communists in the United States."

I write to ask if Mr. Jacob Spolansky has ever been a member or agent of the Department of Justice? If so, during what period of time?

May I also inquire whether he would be at liberty to use material gained while in your employ in feature articles for newspapers? Further, is the material which your bureau may gather " concerning the activities of the communists" available to the public?

Permit me to thank you in advance for the information desired in this communication.

Yours sincerely,

*Reply  
12/24/28*

*W. B. Waltwire*

RECEIVED

67-1959-7  
RECORDED  
DEC 5 1928

December 3, 1928.

Rev. William Bailey Waltham,  
Des Plaines Methodist Episcopal Church,  
Lee Street and Park Place,  
Des Plaines, Illinois.

Dear Sir:

Receipt is acknowledged of your communication of November 23rd., relative to Jacob Spolansky, and the inquiries contained therein have been duly noted.

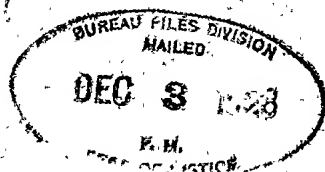
Mr. Jacob Spolansky was an Agent under the jurisdiction of this Bureau from July 19, 1919 to March 7, 1924, resigning on the latter date.

No Agent or employee of the Bureau at the present time is permitted to retain in his possession any material procured by him while engaged in the work of the Bureau. Neither is he permitted, while under the jurisdiction of the Bureau to indulge in publicity of any kind. Manifestly, upon leaving the service of the Bureau, no control may be exercised over him. The information gathered by the Bureau's Agents in the course of their work is not available to the public but is for the purpose of transmission to United States Attorneys and other Government officials interested in the prosecution of those alleged to be guilty of violations of Federal Laws.

I trust the foregoing answers satisfactorily the inquiries made by you. In the event that I can be of further service to you, please advise me.

Very truly yours,

Director.



JEH:CEK;HW

February 26, 1935.

Time-4:22 P.M.

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. TOLSON

RE: Jacob Spolansky,  
Former Agent.

Mr. Cotton, of the Detroit Times, telephoned and advised that he had received a request from Mr. Dale, the Editor of the Times, to ascertain from the Department the general reputation and reliability of one Jacob Spolansky, who he understands was an agent in the Bureau from 1918 to 1922. Mr. Cotton stated that he had contacted Mr. Gates of the Department yesterday and asked for this information but had been advised that the Department's policy forbade the giving out of such information; that he had so advised Mr. Dale, but the latter had wired back and asked if he could just ascertain how reliable this individual was; that he was making the inquiry because of the fact that Spolansky was trying to sell the Times some information concerning Communistic activities.

I advised Mr. Cotton that in the first place Spolansky had been out of the Bureau so long that it would be unfair and unwise to make any statement as to his reputation and reliability at this time; that, secondly, he had been in the Bureau before I had become Director and I could not make any statement concerning him because of this reason, and that, thirdly, his file was in storage because of its old date. I advised Mr. Cotton, however, that in general I would be very cautious about any person alleging to have Communistic information because there have been a number of instances where individuals have sold false information to newspapers and that in my opinion, it would be advisable to carefully check up on any individual claiming to possess such information before buying the same; that I couldn't say if Spolansky was in this category or not, but that in general much false information had been written about radical activities in this country, although I did not wish to convey the impression, either, that it did not exist in certain sections of the country. I stated that I did not know whether Spolansky had resigned from the Bureau or any other particulars about him and I, therefore, could not make any statement about him.

Mr. Cotton stated that he would convey my advice to Mr. Dale confidentially.

Very truly yours,

John Edgar Hoover,  
Director.

67-1989-8
1935
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE
FILE

Mr. Nathan  
Mr. Tolson  
Mr. Backus  
Mr. Baughman  
Chief Clerk  
Mr. Clegg  
Mr. Coffey  
Mr. Edwards  
Mr. Egan  
Mr. Harbo  
Mr. Keith  
Mr. Lester  
Mr. Quinn  
Mr. Schilder  
Mr. Smith  
Mr. Tamm  
Mr. Tracy  
Miss Gandy

1 copy

HPL:HEG

March 16, 1932.

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR.

67-19888-57

This morning I received a telephone call from an individual who stated that he was the Washington representative of the New York Times. This individual inquired as to whether there was a Special Agent in the employ of the Bureau by the name of Jacob Spolanski. Before answering the request, I checked the records of Division Seven and found that there was no Special Agent by that name employed at the present time and so advised the person with whom I was speaking over the telephone. His reply in an officious tone and manner was that he knew we did have. I was somewhat irked at his manner and tone and interrupted with the reply that I was in a better position to state that than he was. He then stated in the same manner that he knew we had had and wanted information as to why he was released from the Service. Instead of responding as I should, that if he desired information in this connection, he should communicate with the Director, I responded that I could give him no information in this connection. I regret that I did not maintain an even temper in this telephone conversation and can attribute my attitude only to the tone and manner of the individual with whom I was speaking.

Respectfully,

Howard P. Locke.

*cut*

*5*

PK

005

61-1989-9

Detroit, Michigan  
December 13, 1939

DEC 22 1939

Director  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir

On November 10, 1939, MR. JACOB SPOLANSKY, 40 Highland Avenue, Highland Park, Michigan, telephone - Townsend 8-0414, who is a former Special Agent of the FBI, was interviewed at the Detroit Field Office by Special Agent J. S. Rogers.

A previous attempt had been made to contact SPOLANSKY for information regarding the arrest of EARL BROWDER at St. Joseph, Michigan around 1922. SPOLANSKY later contacted Agent Rogers and advised that he had considerable information regarding Communist matters generally in the United States and that he would like to discuss the matter.

SPOLANSKY brought to the Detroit Office two copies of "THE PAN-PACIFIC WORKER," dated July 15 and September 15, 1927. SPOLANSKY stated that this magazine was published by EARL BROWDER at Hankow, China, when BROWDER was engaged in Communist activities in China around 1927. SPOLANSKY presented the two copies of "THE PAN-PACIFIC WORKER" to Agent, and they are being forwarded herewith to the Bureau.

SPOLANSKY furnished the names of the following persons who have considerable information concerning the Communist Party U.S.A. and who might be able to furnish this information to the Bureau:

BEN GITLOW, former National Secretary of the Communist Party. SPOLANSKY stated that GITLOW broke with the Communist Party because of his opposition to the Communist plan to destroy the American Federation of Labor and to give self-determination to Southern negroes. GITLOW is reported by SPOLANSKY to have testified before the Dies Committee.

JOSEPH ZACK, New York City. SPOLANSKY stated that ZACK, a charter member of the Communist Party, was

Letter to Director from SAC Detroit  
December 15, 1959

once a suspect in the Wall Street Bombing case; that he is now out of the Communist Party and can possibly furnish full information regarding the present passport charge against CARL BROWDER. SPOLANSKY stated that ZACK has testified before the Dies Committee.

Lieutenant MARK WELLS, Chicago Police Department. MR. SPOLANSKY stated that Lieutenant WELLS is very well versed in Communist Party matters and has full information pertaining to Communist leaders.

CHARLES SCULLY, in charge of the Investigation Department of the National Association of Creditmen, New York City. SPOLANSKY stated that SCULLY is a good friend of the Director and has a great deal of information regarding Communist activities in the United States.

SPOLANSKY also furnished the following names as persons in high positions in the Communist Party:

NORMAN TRIENSTARE, a British alien, New York City  
ALEX BAIL, a Russian alien, New York City  
HARRISON GEORGE, brother-in-law of CARL BROWDER,  
New York City  
BUD REYNOLDS, possibly Pacific Coast District Organizer, Los Angeles, California

Copies of this letter are being sent to the Chicago, New York and Los Angeles Offices for their information only.

Very truly yours

John S. Ruger  
Special Agent in Charge

JSR/rre  
65-66  
Enclosures (2) *File 65-66*

CC - Chicago  
New York  
Los Angeles  
Detroit file 65-175

REF:VVE

11:50 A.M.

November 17, 1936.

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR

RE: La Follette Committee.

Mr. R. John Cummings, Investigator for the above named Committee, called and inquired if it would be possible to review the Bureau's files on William Larson a former employee of the Bureau, who, you recall was the Special Agent in Charge at Detroit, and on Jacob Spolansky, who was employed by the Bureau from April, 1920, to March, 1924.

I informed Mr. Cummings that the request which the Department previously approved did not include the review of personnel files which were, of course, highly confidential; that however, I would submit his request to you.

I suggest that I inform Mr. Cummings that the information contained in the Bureau's personnel files is of course, of a highly confidential nature and pertains not only to the particular employee involved, but also in other instances to persons who are still employed by the Bureau and that for this reason we do not desire to make the personnel files available to him; that if he will inform us of the specific information which he desires concerning the former employees, we will be very glad to give further consideration to his request. This statement to Mr. Cummings, so far as the personnel files involving other employees is particularly true in the case of former Special Agent in Charge Larson, whose file contains numerous inspection reports and other information pertaining to other employees and I do not think it should, under any circumstances, be made available for inspection by persons of the above Committee.

Mr. Cummings is to call me tomorrow to ascertain whether or not it would be possible to review these files.

Respectfully,

P. E. Foxworth.

*If he will tell me  
what he wants we  
will try to give it  
to him but we  
cannot spend up  
other files as  
Foxworth points out. J. D. H.*

67-2947-277

PEF:VVK

9:50 A.M.

November 18, 1936.

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR

Re: La Follette Committee.

Mr. R. John Cummings, investigator for the above committee, called and referred to his previous request to review the personnel files of former Special Agent in Charge Larson and former Special Agent Spolansky.

In replying to this inquiry, I informed Mr. Cummings that the personnel files were of a very highly confidential nature and the file would necessarily pertain to matters other than to the particular employee named, and inquired of him if he could give me any indication as to the specific information which he desired, informing him that if he could do this, we might be in a position to furnish him with the desired information. Mr. Cummings stated he would consult Mr. Wohlforth and inform me as to his decision.

1:50 P.M.

Mr. Cummings called and stated that he had talked to Mr. Wohlforth concerning this matter and that Mr. Wohlforth stated that the only information in which the committee was interested at this time was as to the duties of these former employees. When I inquired as to just what he desired concerning their duties, he stated that the only information they wanted was the duties of their positions, that is, whether or not they were regular Special Agents or whether either of them had ever been in charge of an office. I told Mr. Cummings I would ascertain if it would be possible to obtain this information.

Mr. Cummings is to call again in the morning. If you approve, I will inform him that Mr. Larson was a former Special Agent in Charge of various Bureau Field Divisions and that Mr. Spolansky was a former Special Agent.

Respectfully,

P. E. Foxworth.

R.

*yes give him what he  
wants. You can also  
give lists, names, of  
officers and salaries  
paid 11/19/36 J.H.*

67-2947-278



PEF:VVK

3:45 P.M.

November 19, 1936.

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR

Re: La Follette Committee.

Mr. R. John Cummings, investigator for the above committee, called at my office in connection with his recent request for information concerning former Special Agent in Charge William Larson and former Special Agent Jacob Spolansky.

I informed Mr. Cummings as to the offices to which Larson had been assigned, both as a Special Agent and a Special Agent in Charge, and also as to his salary. In addition, I furnished him with his legal residence at the time he entered the Bureau and also of his present address.

I also verbally furnished Mr. Cummings with information concerning the date upon which Jacob Spolansky entered the Bureau's service, his salary, offices of assignment and the date upon which he resigned, as well as his legal residence at the time he entered the service and his last known address as reflected by the file, together with information concerning the fact that we had information indicating that Mr. Spolansky might possibly have applied for a position with the Detroit Employers Association during 1927.

Respectfully,

P. E. Foxworth.

67-2947-279

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

DEC 13 1941

WESTERN UNION

COPY

Mr. Tolson	
Mr. E. A. Tamm	
Mr. Clegg	
Mr. Glavin	
Mr. Ladd	
Mr. Nichols	
Mr. Rosen	
Mr. Tracy	
Mr. Carson	
Mr. Egan	
Mr. Gurnea	
Mr. Hendon	
Mr. Jones	
Mr. Quinn Tamm	
Mr. Nease	
Miss Gandy	

WE17 464 EXTRA

DETROIT MICH DEC 13 829A

J EDGAR HOOVER

FBI

IN RESPONSE TO YOUR CALL I PLACE MYSELF UNCONDITIONALLY AT THE SERVICES  
OF MY COUNTRY I AM A FORMER AGENT OF THE FIRST WORLD WAR AND POST  
WAR DAYS AND WAS EXCLUSIVELY ASSIGNED TO THE OLD INTELLIGENCE DIVISION  
WITH HEADQUARTERS IN CHICAGO

JACOB SPOLANSKY 40 HIGHLAND HIGHLANDPARK MICH

JAN 1942

916A

Think for offer  
Gural on file  
12/16/41  
J. R. L.

RECORDED

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DEC 22 1941	
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION	

THREE

ack by letter  
12-18-41  
JL

Wey B

REL:FG  
67-1989

December 18, 1941

Mr. Jacob Spolansky  
40 Highland  
Highland Park, Michigan

Dear Mr. Spolansky:

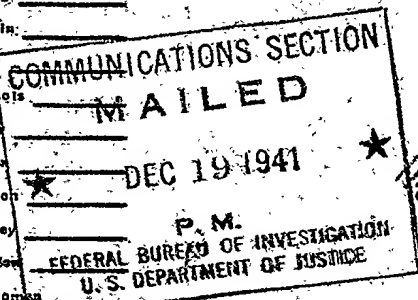
Receipt is acknowledged of your telegram of December 13, 1941, relative to your desire to be of service to the Federal Bureau of Investigation at this time.

I want you to know that your offer of assistance is indeed appreciated, and your qualifications will be remembered should the occasion arise wherein your services might be utilized.

Sincerely yours,

John Edgar Hoover  
Director

Mr. Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. E. A. Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Clegg \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Glavin \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Ladd \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Nichols \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Tracy \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Carson \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Coffey \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Hendon \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Holloman \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Quinn Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Nease \_\_\_\_\_  
Miss Gandy \_\_\_\_\_



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*[Handwritten signature]*



WHA'DXM

Federal Bureau of Investigation  
United States Department of Justice  
Washington, D. C.  
December 2, 1942

Mr. Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. E. A. Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Clegg \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Glavin \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Ladd \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Nichols \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Tracy \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Carson \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Coffee \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Hendon \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Kramer \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. McGuire \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Harbo \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Quinn Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Nease \_\_\_\_\_  
Miss Beahm \_\_\_\_\_  
Miss Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. Tamm

In accordance with your recent request there are attached blind memoranda regarding Jacob Spolansky's activities and connections and the efforts of Charles Price of the Ford Motor Company to secure information of a derogatory nature relative to the Du Pont family. It will be noted that the only data which could be located that pertains to the latter situation is contained in reports recently submitted by Confidential Informant [redacted]

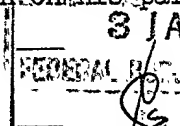
b2  
b7D

With reference to Lois P. Lauckner, little recent information is available, though she is apparently located at the present time in Detroit, Michigan, and is residing at the Palmetto Apartments. On October 15, 1942, she came to the Detroit Field Office and inquired if the FBI was responsible for her failure to secure employment in one of the plants there because of her previous difficulties with the FBI in New York City. She said she had been turned down by a number of different concerns in Detroit for no apparent reason. She was, of course, advised that the FBI had nothing whatever to do with recommending for or against her employment.

On October 28, 1942, she secured a job with the Ford Motor Company, but resigned on November 10, 1942, stating that she desired employment during day hours only. She was recognized while there by Ensign J. A. Wagner, U.S.N., who knew her previously in Battle Creek, Michigan. Her desirability as an employee at Ford's was questioned by the Army Air Corps. It is interesting to note that no letters of reference are contained in her personnel file at the Ford Motor Company, which is contrary to the general policy of that company.

In reports submitted by Confidential Informant [redacted] dated on November 7 and November 11, 1942, it was indicated that Charles Price had requested him to assist in checking on Lois Lauckner. Price indicated that he was interested in finding out whether she ever called the FBI Office and, if so, who she called. According to the informant, Price said that he thought Harry Bennett of Ford's wanted to get this information relative to her activities and movements in general to reciprocate to SAC Bugas for some favors that he had apparently recently received.

There is also attached a memorandum for the Attorney General regarding Harry J. Pfaltzgraff, which summarizes the available information pertaining to him since he entered the Army. This memorandum is merely informative and makes no request of the Attorney General for any action on his part as this matter.



FILES SECTION

MEMORANDUM FOR MR. TAMM

- 2 -

has been taken up with Colonel Bissell of G-2 by the Liaison Section, and arrangements have been made with him to have Pfaltzgraff removed from the Chicago area. According to information received from G-2 headquarters, Pfaltzgraff was in training in Chicago and has now been assigned to an office outside of that area, although the office to which he has been assigned is not known at the present time.

Respectfully,

  
D. M. Ladd

Attachments *et*

MEMORANDUM

RE: CHARLES PRICE

Charles Price is employed as an investigator by Harry Bennett, Personnel Manager for Henry Ford. On November 7, 1942, it was reported that Price was in connection with his employment with the Ford Motor Company making an effort to secure information of a derogatory nature concerning the Du Pont family of Wilmington, Delaware. In this connection it was stated that an attempt was being made to show that the Du Ponts had heavily backed the Anti-Defamation League and the Anti-Nazi League in a financial way.

According to the informant, Price had determined that a Washington newspaperman maintains in his home a complete file including a definite record of some of the Du Pont's alleged shortcomings. Price has reportedly determined the location of the files in this house and is said to have evolved a plan whereby the servants could be gotten away from the premises and access gained to the material in question.

ENCLOSURE

11

JAN 7 1943

*FD-100*

RE: JACOB SPOLANSKY

Jacob Spolansky was born in Kieff, Russia fifty-one years ago and spent the early part of his life in that country. He attended high school in the City of Kieff for five and one-half years and then went to the University of Kieff for about two years. He next attended the University of Zurich, Switzerland for one year and came to the United States in 1909, continuing his studies in a Chicago law school for two more years. He became a naturalized citizen in 1915. Spolansky is said to be able to speak, read and write English, Russian and Hungarian; read and speak Croatian, Polish, Bulgarian and Serbian; and understand and speak fairly well German and Jewish.

From 1911 to 1915 he worked for one H. Friend in Chicago as a salesman, and from 1915 to 1917 he represented a number of newspapers in the advertising business in the same city. During 1917 and 1918 he is said to have operated a Chicago newspaper and assisted the Federal Reserve Division in conducting liberty loan drives. In April, 1918, he secured a position with the Intelligence Division, General Staff, United States Army in Chicago and remained with that organization until July 1, 1919 when he went to work for the Sheriff of Cook County, Illinois as an investigator. He held the latter position until July 18, 1919, when he resigned to accept a position in the Bureau of Investigation and devoted his time exclusively to the investigation of Bolsheviki and other radical activities in the Chicago area. He resigned from this position effective March 7, 1924.

Immediately after leaving the Department of Justice a series of articles appeared under Spolansky's name in the Chicago Daily News. These had to do with "Red" activities and inferred that the Department of Justice had just completed an exhaustive investigation of the situation and had released the results to the papers, which was not true. At the time these stories appeared, it was felt by many that Spolansky had used material which had come into his possession as an Agent of the Bureau of Investigation.

On February 7, 1924, an article appeared in the Chicago Daily News entitled "Hunt \$250,000.00 Smuggled Jewels Here", which contained information apparently furnished by Spolansky. He had obtained this information while employed by the Bureau of Investigation in connection with his investigative activities in that particular case. Spolansky stated that he was not responsible for divulging the information contained in the newspaper article, but according to information received at that time, he seemed to be the only person in a position to give out these data. He was, of course, employed by the newspaper which ran the story at the time it was published. In addition to his literary efforts with the Chicago Daily News, he also wrote a book entitled "Red Trail in America."

ENCLOSURE

Since leaving the Department of Justice in 1924, Spolansky has been associated with many organizations and concerns chiefly in an investigative capacity. Some of the concerns for which he has worked include the Corporation Auxiliary Company, which was doing undercover work for various large corporations in and around Detroit; The National Clay Products Industries Association of

FILED  
JAN 7 1943

Chicago; the National Metal Trades Association; and the Chrysler Corporation. From 1934 to 1938 he was an investigator for the Sheriff's Office at Detroit, Michigan and has also worked for the Dies Committee and several privately financed groups. In connection with his various investigative endeavors, Spolansky has used his uncle, Captain Make Mills of the Chicago Police Department, and Harry Meculiac of the Detroit Police Department as sources of information.

In 1935 the General Motors Corporation paid Spolansky \$200.00, and during the first seven months of 1936 he received \$280.00 from the same source. According to an article in the New York Times of February 16, 1937, these payments were for services reportedly rendered as a "labor spy". It was stated that this information had been brought out by the La Follette Committee, which claimed to have wiped out this practice on the part of the General Motors Corporation.

On October 12, 1938, Spolansky testified before the Dies Committee in Detroit, Michigan and on October 18, 1938 he again testified before this Committee in Washington, D. C. During his testimony he stated that he had worked for the Department of Justice for six years and the remainder of his statements concerned Communist and other radical activities in general and mentioned several alleged Communists specifically. According to Spolansky, as quoted in the press, he would be discharged by the Detroit Sheriff's Office where he was then employed as a result of his testimony. He stated that this action would be taken because of his "speaking against labor" and added that Labor's Nonpartisan League in Detroit had demanded his dismissal when he first aired his views there.

Shortly after Spolansky appeared before the Dies Committee he was in fact dismissed by the Detroit Sheriff's Office. The Daily Worker of December 10, 1938, reported that at the time Spolansky was dismissed a warrant was sworn out charging him with obtaining \$20.00 under false pretenses from a tavern operator on the promise that he would assist him in getting a liquor license. Spolansky was arrested on this charge but its final outcome is not known.

From February, 1939, to August, 1939, Spolansky worked for Gerald L. K. Smith as a collector and investigator. According to his own statements, this employment resulted from Spolansky's previous activities in investigating Communism and he accepted the job at Smith's request. The employment was not on a permanent basis and the only agreement between Spolansky and Smith was an oral one. According to Spolansky he left Smith when he learned that he was anti-Jewish, anti-Administration, selfish, insincere, and generally no good. He received \$150.00 in pay from Smith and an additional \$350.00, which he has claimed was due him, he has never received but has not felt it advisable to bring suit.

In November, 1939, it was reported that Spolansky was working as a special investigator for Judge Homer Ferguson, who was at that time inquiring into charges of police graft in Detroit, Michigan.



Spolansky ran for Sheriff of Wayne County, Detroit, Michigan on the Republican ticket in the Primary Election held in September, 1940. In his campaign literature he played up his activities in combating Communism and other radical elements and stressed the bad vice and radical conditions in Detroit, severely criticizing the then incumbents in public office for these conditions.

In the latter part of 1940 Spolansky started working for George Mintzer of the American Jewish Committee in New York City and has maintained this connection ever since. He has investigated various matters for this organization and has allegedly furnished it with considerable information. One of the reports made by Spolansky in this connection was dated in July, 1941, and concerned an allegation that newly ordained and unassigned Lutheran ministers were being recruited by the Nazis for assignments of an anti-Semitic nature.

During 1941 Spolansky and Nicholas Salowich, the Detroit attorney who drew up an appeal for Max Stephan who has been sentenced to death for treason, unsuccessfully attempted to organize a Detroit branch of the Nonsectarian League for Americanism, the headquarters of which were in Chicago. Spolansky was the brother-in-law of Harry Meculiak of the Detroit Police Department, who has previously been mentioned as one of Spolansky's probable sources of information.

In the Fall of 1941 information was received that Spolansky was traveling back and forth between Windsor, Canada and Detroit, Michigan as well as other American cities and was possibly working on behalf of the British as a labor agent. This allegation has not been confirmed through any other sources.

In November, 1941, Spolansky allegedly exhibited a letter in Detroit in which Congressman Dies authorized him to make Communist investigations. Spolansky reportedly stated that Dies wanted to secure such information to "embarrass the President". In January, 1942, he was said to be assisting Harry J. Pfaltzgraff of the Dies Committee in investigating the National Workers League in Detroit and other matters, particularly Communism. He is understood to have assisted in making preparations for Dies Committee investigators to raid the meeting places of several German organizations and the home of at least one individual.

In March, 1942, it was alleged that Communist Party activity in the Sojourner Truth Project was going on very actively and was being investigated by the Dies Committee through Spolansky. It was stated that Spolansky had been trying hard to get the Ku-Klux Klan to commit itself on the subject of the Sojourner Truth Project but had been bluntly told that the Klan had nothing whatever to do with it.

Spolansky was making up a long account of the activities of the National Workers League in Detroit for the Dies Committee and Captain Mills of the Chicago Police Department in April, 1942, according to information received from a reliable source. This report was said to be built up and somewhat exaggerated but not very bad from the standpoint of pro-Axis sympathy.

On May 13, 1942, it was reported that Spolansky had received orders from the Anti-Defamation League and the Jewish Anti-Nazi League of New York City to get out and procure some evidence on Gerald L. K. Smith as he had claimed that he could, or he would be dropped from the pay roll. He was reportedly being paid \$100.00 a week in this connection and the orders were a result of his failure to produce. At the same time Spolansky was working for the Dies Committee and had allegedly received instructions from it to the effect that he should not try to build up a case on Smith.

Also during May, 1942, Spolansky is understood to have done some work for Ellis Aronsen, a Department of Justice attorney who was reportedly investigating the National Workers League, to secure information for presentation to a Federal Grand Jury.

About this time it was reported that Spolansky was calling up all of the people that he knew who were ever connected with the National Workers League in any way and telling them that the Grand Jury was to question them beginning May 25, 1942. He told these individuals that he would like to help them out beforehand and if they would let him talk to them first, he would tell them what answers they should give. It was stated that he was using tactics which amounted to blackmail and that these were resented by some of the persons whom he contacted, who told him that they would testify before a Grand Jury but they did not like his attitude. In view of his actions in this respect, a number of persons allegedly gave him wrong information purposely.

A report received in June, 1942, indicated that one Birkhead (possibly the Reverend L. M. Birkhead of Friends of Democracy) and his friends planned through Spolansky and others to plant machine guns and ammunition in the homes of certain persons in Detroit. The conspirators were then allegedly to tip off the Federal Bureau of Investigation and the homes it was thought would be raided. After the raid it was planned that it would be learned that the occupants of these houses were followers of Gerald L. K. Smith, Henry Ford, Harry Bennett, Father Coughlin and others. It was stated that Spolansky was operating on a very vicious basis because he was mad at Smith for not giving him a job and angry at the Ford Motor Company where he had not been able to secure employment. Gerald L. K. Smith reportedly told the same story to another individual and said that he believed Spolansky was engineering the whole plot to discredit Ford, Lindbergh, Coughlin, Smith, Harry Bennett and all the leaders of the community.

Another report received in June of 1942 was to the effect that Spolansky had distributed a list of alleged Nazis to various agencies and attorneys in the State of Michigan. It was said that this list was not authoritative at all but merely consisted of a group of names which he had acquired from a White Russian woman in Pontiac, Michigan. She had reportedly gathered a list of names of foreign born Republicans whom she had met during her assignment as head of the Foreign Born Republican Headquarters during the 1940 election. To these names Spolansky was said to have added the names contained on a list which he had received from Captain Mills of the Chicago Police Department, and these two lists combined

constituted the list circulated by Spolansky as containing the names of Nazis. It was also stated that there was no evidence that the individuals whose names were on this list were actually pro-Nazi but they were individuals of foreign birth.

During the first week of July, 1942, it was stated that Spolansky was watching the movements of the Esperanto Association of North America closely. This organization held a convention in Detroit during the first few days of July and Spolansky reportedly stated that he was being pushed very hard to get information for his uncle, Captain Mills of the Chicago Police Department, and the Anti-Defamation League.

On July 24, 1942, it was alleged that Spolansky was again cooperating with Gerald L. K. Smith either from a standpoint of getting additional information from him or for the purpose of accepting a job as a promoter of a party then being started by Smith. An individual who knows Spolansky well was quoted as saying, "Spolansky may in the end double-cross the Dies Committee and the Anti-Defamation League."

Nicholas Salowich, who has previously been mentioned, was reportedly using Spolansky as an investigator in August, 1942, and had him mixed up with a scandal concerning the Eckert and Becker Brewery. Details of this scandal are not available, but Salowich's law partner was said to be president of the brewery.

On October 9, 1942, it was alleged that Spolansky had offered Gerald L. K. Smith's former manager \$2,000.00 if he would give all of the information in his possession to the Federal Bureau of Investigation to "burn" Smith.

On November 11, 1942, it was reported that Spolansky had returned to Detroit from Chicago after having assisted Harry J. Pfaltzgraff in compiling a report on Gerald L. K. Smith for the Dies Committee. Pfaltzgraff is a former Dies Committee investigator who is presently serving in the United States Army but who secured a furlough to handle this assignment for the Dies Committee. At the time this report was received it was also stated that Spolansky had very recently stated that he had been assigned to investigate Father Coughlin and was going to interview him and his manager.

## Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Mr. Tolson

DATE: March 26, 1947

FROM : L. B. Nichols

SUBJECT:

Mr. Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. E. A. Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Clegg \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Glavin \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Ladd \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Nichols \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Tracy \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Carson \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Egan \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Gurnea \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Harbo \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Hendon \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Pennington \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Quinn Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
 Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mr. Nease \_\_\_\_\_  
 Miss Beahn \_\_\_\_\_  
 Miss Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

George Cushing of WJR advised me that Governor Kim Sigler had either hired or was about to hire Jacob Spolansky as an investigator of un-American activities. Cushing wondered if we knew Spolansky since formerly he was employed by the Bureau.

I told Cushing that for his information we would have nothing to do with Spolansky, that he personally should be very cautious in any dealings with him as he is not the acme of reliability.

LBN:hbm

RECORDED

APR 8 1947

67-1989-13
Classified _____
Numbered _____
Filed _____
6 APR 5 1947
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

*[Handwritten signature]*

May 3, 1948

Director, FBI

SAC, Detroit

COMMUNIST PARTY, USA  
PAMPHLETS AND PUBLICATIONS

Enclosed herewith is a new pamphlet published by the Michigan State Committee, Communist Party, entitled "Toy Must Go!". This is in the nature of an attack by WILLIAM ALLAN, Daily Worker correspondent and Vice-Chairman of the Michigan Communist Party, on Detroit Police Commissioner HARRY S. TOY. Attention is directed to Page Six of this pamphlet wherein JACOB SPOLANSKY is referred to as "a former member of the F.B.I.".

The above described pamphlet was furnished Special Agent HARVARD E. HEYSTER of the Detroit Office by Confidential Informant [redacted] on April 28, 1948, and it has been appropriately marked for identification.

The Michigan Edition - The Worker, in its issue of April 18, 1948, Page 13, Column 3, announces a new ten cents pamphlet by HARRY FAINARU entitled "War States New Darling - Nazi's Friend King Michael". It is stated this pamphlet has just been issued by the Romanian-American Publishing Association, Inc., 2144 East Grand Boulevard, Detroit 11, Michigan. Copies of this pamphlet have not been furnished the Detroit Office to date. FAINARU is noted as an active Detroit Communist Party functionary and former Daily Worker correspondent.

FGC:VAK  
100-15868  
Enclosure

14 MAY 25 1948

67-1987-14

Searched	14
Numbered	89
Filed	27
4 MAY 19 1948	
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION	

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Excerpt from Pamphlet by William Allan, "TOY MUST GO!"

\*\*\*\*\*

Excerpt from page 6

#### TOY'S SIDEKICKS

Toy, in whitewashing Ford, had the aid of two notorious figures in Detroit. One was Jacob Spolansky, a stool pigeon, hated by thousands of workers on whom he squealed and whom he caused to be fired for union activities. Spolansky was a former member of the FBI. Spolansky testified the marchers fired the shots.

Another of Toy's helpers was pro-Nazi "Silver" Charles E. Coughlin who broadcast on his "Golden Radio Hour" that Henry Ford was not to blame for the killings and shootings on Miller Road, March 7, 1932.

\*\*\*\*\*

# FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

Form No. 1

THIS CASE ORIGINATED AT **BUREAU**

NY FILE NO. **116-23353 BLT**

REPORT MADE AT <b>NEW YORK</b>	DATE WHEN MADE <b>3/1/49</b>	PERIOD FOR WHICH MADE <b>2/11, 14-17/49</b>	REPORT MADE BY <b>JOHN R. ANDERSON</b>
TITLE <b>ELLIOT DAVID FREEDMAN</b>			CHARACTER OF CASE <b>ADAM</b>

b2  
b7D

**SYNOPSIS OF FACTS:**

*JACOB POLANSKY*

**REFERENCE:**

Bureau letter to New York 2/8/49.

**DETAILS:**

Employment

At the Link Radio Corporation, 125 East 17th Street, New York, RICHARD G. CUTTINGHAM, Personnel Director, explained that that concern did not keep adequate records until 1942 when it was incorporated. He made an exhaustive search of all records available but found no record for the applicant. MR. CUTTINGHAM stated that the applicant's name sounded familiar, but he could not recall him well enough to make any statement concerning him. ERIC LEE, President, Wm. H. Haight Jr., Assistant Comptroller, and L. R. BIRD, Salesman, all of Link Radio Corporation, were contacted and each stated that though the applicant's name was familiar, they could not recall him well enough to give any information concerning him. MR. CUTTINGHAM advised that there was no one other than these men presently employed who would have been employed in 1941.

WILLIAM JOHNSON, Personnel Director, Radio Inventions, Incorporated, 155 Perry Street, New York, produced records which reflected

APPROVED AND FORWARDED:	SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE	DO NOT WRITE IN THESE SPACES
COPIES OF THIS REPORT  5- Bureau 1- New York		1949 - 15 7 9 23 APR 4 1949

ORIGINAL FILE IN 116-151341-4

NY 116-29858

that ELLIOT DAVID FRIEDMAN was employed as a Project Engineer in Electronics from August 6, 1946 to August 29, 1947, when he resigned of his own volition. MR. JOHNSON recalled the applicant well and said that "so far as any security matter is concerned, FRIEDMAN is 100% okay." He described the applicant as conscientious, dependable, and intelligent. He advised that FRIEDMAN was of good moral character, a loyal American citizen, and a person about whom he knew nothing derogatory. JOHNSON stated that Radio Inventions, Incorporated, was presently doing confidential work for the government, but that they had done secret work before and FRIEDMAN had worked at that time. JOHNSON said that FRIEDMAN was cleared by the Provost Marshal's office as qualified to do this work. JOHNSON stated that he would "recommend FRIEDMAN with my compliments." He added that he had regretted FRIEDMAN'S resignation and would rehire him, if he were able to do so.

MR. HOWARD GRESSENS, Personnel Manager, Airborne Instruments Laboratory, 100 Old Country Road, Mineola, New York, produced records which showed that he had been employed at this Laboratory from September 11, 1947 to November 23, 1947 as an electrical engineer. MR. GRESSENS stated that he had not known FRIEDMAN prior to the time that he was employed at this Laboratory, but he stated that he would not hesitate to recommend him from a point of view of honesty, integrity, or loyalty. He advised that he knew nothing about FRIEDMAN that he would consider as being derogatory.

At the Hillyer Instrument Company, Inc., 54-60 Lafayette Street, New York, MRS. HARRIET HILLYER, Secretary and Treasurer of the corporation, advised that the applicant was employed from December 1, 1947 to February 1, 1949 as a Senior Electronics Engineer. MRS. HILLYER, wife of CURTIS HILLYER, President of the Hillyer Corporation, stated that she was in charge of security for the corporation and kept a close watch on all employees for any evidence of disloyal tendencies. She advised that she considered the applicant to be "above suspicion as to disloyalty." MRS. HILLYER said that the Hillyer Corporation was doing secret work and was cleared for top secret work, and that the applicant had been cleared by Wright Field to perform top secret work for the Army. She described the applicant as a man of good moral character and principles about whom she knew nothing derogatory. She said that she would gladly recommend him for a position of confidence and trust.

ARTHUR MOHR, Assistant to the President of the Hillyer Instrument Corporation, Inc., stated that he had worked very closely with



NY 116-29358

the applicant and during the time he had known him had never been aware of anything derogatory concerning the applicant in regard to his character, associates, or his loyalty to the United States. He described FRIEDMAN as "a sober, serious boy who would surprise me if he did anything wrong." He advised that he would recommend him for a responsible position.

MRS. JEAN PAYNE, Assistant to the Registrar, Polytechnic Institute of Brooklyn, made available records which reflect that the applicant enrolled on September 15, 1942 and dropped out of classes on December 22, 1942. The applicant received no credits. His birth date was recorded as December 8, 1920. PROFESSOR FRANK E. CAVACIAL, in whose class FRIEDMAN was a student, and ERNEST STREUBEL, Dean of Students, were contacted, but neither was able to recall the applicant.

MISS MADELYN SCULLEY, General Information Desk, Columbia University Registrar's Office, 116th Street and Broadway, New York, displayed a record reflecting that ELLIOT DAVID FRIEDMAN had taken a course, "Ultra High Frequency Antenna," starting January 3, 1944 at Columbia. The date of termination of this course was not shown. A complete record is on file at the United States Office of Education, Washington, D. C. There was no further information on file and no one contacted was able to recall the applicant.

MISS M. ELIZABETH KAEWEG, Recorder, New York University, College of Engineering, advised that ELLIOT DAVID FRIEDMAN enrolled in E.S.M.U.T., a non-credit course, in September, 1944 and continued this course until June, 1945. The record revealed that the applicant graduated from Far Rockaway High School, Far Rockaway, Long Island, New York in June, 1938; he attended Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Cambridge, Massachusetts from September, 1938 to April, 1942, at which time he received a B. S. degree, and attended evening classes in E. S. M. U. T. courses in Columbia University and Brooklyn Polytechnic College. There was nothing of a derogatory nature concerning the applicant in the record. His birth date was recorded as December 8, 1920. MISS KAEWEG advised that no one at New York University would be able to recall the applicant.

#### References

MR. DAN YELLIN, Apartment 3-D, 1573 45th Street, Brooklyn, New York, advised that he has known ELLIOT D. FRIEDMAN approximately four

NY 116-29358

years and FRIEDMAN'S wife for about twenty-five years, explaining that he grew up with her in the same neighborhood. MR. YELLIN stated that he could not recommend the applicant too highly inasmuch as during the time that he had known him, he had never been aware of anything of a derogatory nature concerning him. YELLIN advised that FRIEDMAN'S character was excellent, his reputation good, and his associates a fine group of people. He said that the applicant was unquestionably loyal to the United States and pointed out that while he was a close friend of FRIEDMAN'S and knew that he had been doing secret work for the government, he had never heard him mention anything concerning his work except to say he would not talk of it. YELLIN advised that he would recommend FRIEDMAN without reservation. It should be noted that YELLIN is a next door neighbor of the applicant.

MR. SIMON COHEN, 254 Beach 140th Street, Belle Harbor, Long Island, has known the applicant for approximately eleven years and advised that he "considered ELLIOT FRIEDMAN favorably in every respect." MR. COHEN stated that FRIEDMAN was like a son to him and had been a close friend of his own son during their high school and college years. He said that he considered the applicant to be of excellent character and reputation and unquestionably loyal to the United States, adding that he had heard discussions that his son and the applicant had had from boyhood and never heard FRIEDMAN say anything to indicate disloyalty. MR. COHEN stated that he knew nothing derogatory concerning FRIEDMAN and would recommend him.

MRS. MORRIS ROTHESTEIN, 124 East 176th Street, Bronx, New York, has known the applicant more than ten years. She gave substantially the same information as did SIMON COHEN.

#### Neighborhood

FRANK MULVEY, Superintendent of the apartment building located at 924 West End Avenue, New York, advised that he had known the applicant and his family for about five years and had found them to be a fine family with an excellent reputation among the tenants in the building. He said the applicant was a sober, serious person about whom he knew nothing unfavorable. MULVEY believed him to be loyal to the United States.

FRANK GALELLA, Elevator Operator in the building at 924 West End Avenue, advised that he had known and been quite friendly with the applicant and his family since he first met them about five years ago.

NY 116-29858

MR. GALELLA stated that in conversations he had had with the applicant's mother he had gained the impression that the FRIEDMAN family were quite loyal to the United States. GALELLA said that "they are against anything un-American and hate the Bolsheviki." He described the applicant as a quiet, studious individual of good character and reputation, and added that he had never known anything derogatory about him.

WILLIAM A. COLLINS, Slawson and Hobbs, 265 West 72nd Street, New York, rental agent for the building at 924 West End Avenue, stated that he had found the FRIEDMAN family to be respectable, sober people with an excellent reputation. He did not believe there would be any question as to their loyalty to the United States. He advised that he knew the applicant's parents better than he knew the applicant, but stated that as far as he knew, ELLIOT FRIEDMAN was above reproach in all respects.

JERRY MULCHANY, Porter at 924 West End Avenue, stated that he had known the applicant about five years and described him as an intelligent, ambitious person. He said that FRIEDMAN was a sober, devoted family man who enjoyed a good reputation. MULCHANY stated that he had no doubts as to his loyalty to the United States.

MISS CORINNE SPOLANSKI, Apartment 9-2 advised that she was a close friend of the applicant's sister, VIVIAN, and her parents were good friends of the applicant's parents. She described the applicant as quiet, sober, dependable and intelligent, and a person with high moral standards. She said that the applicant and his entire family were loyal American citizens with excellent reputations. MISS SPOLANSKI stated that her father, JACK SPOLANSKI, a former agent of this Bureau, considered both the applicant and his father to be good stable citizens of the United States.

MISS HILA KIOZALES, Apartment 45, 924 West End Avenue, said that the applicant and his family were highly respectable people, about whom she knew nothing derogatory. She advised that the applicant's reputation was "par excellence" as to character, associates and loyalty to the United States. According to MISS KIOZALES, FRIEDMAN is a good family man who neither drinks nor smokes. She has known him approximately eight years, during which time she has considered him to be "an outstanding individual in every way."

MRS. ELEANOR PETERSON, Superintendent of the building located at 1573 48th Street, Brooklyn, New York, advised that she has known FRIEDMAN

NY 116-29850

and his wife for approximately three years and has found them to be highly desirable tenants of good character and reputation in the building. She advised that the applicant and his wife have a small daughter and appear to be home loving, quiet people who seldom go out in the evening. MRS. PETERSON was aware of nothing derogatory concerning the applicant and believes him to be a loyal citizen of the United States.

MRS. EVELYN BROWN, Apartment D-4, 1573 48th Street, Brooklyn, New York, gave substantially the same information as MRS. PETERSON.

Confidential Informants T-1 and T-2 reported on December 23, 1947 that one LILLIE FREEDMAN, born 1901, was listed as being a member of the I.W.O. at Lodge Number 600, which meets at 1723 Boston Post Road, Bronx, New York. Neither informant was able to furnish further identifying information.

Credit and Criminal

A check of the records of the Credit Bureau of Greater New York reflected no record for ELLIOT DAVID FREEDMAN.

A check of the files of the New York City Police Department and the Nassau County Police Department reflected no record for ELLIOT DAVID FREEDMAN.

- RUC -

NY 116-29853

ADMINISTRATIVE DATA

The identities of the Confidential Informants appearing  
in the report of SA JOHN R. ANDERSON, New York, dated March 1, 1949 are as follows:

T-1

T-2



b2  
b7D

Form No. 1

DETROIT

NY File No. 44-133 KMB

This case Originated At.

Report made at NEW YORK	Date when made 3/1/50	Period for which made 12/27-30/49; 1/4-6, 9-12, 16 :-18, 30; 2/2, 3, 6-10, 15, 16, 20/50:	Report made by JOSEPH L. TANGEL
Title UNKNOWN SUBJECTS: Attempted Bombing of UAW-CIO International Headquarters, December 20, 1949, Detroit, Michigan; WALTER F. REUTHER, Pres., UAW-CIO, Internat. Union, Shot April 20, 1948. Synopsis of facts: VICTOR GEORGE REUTHER, Educational Director UAW-CIO, International Union, Shot May 24, 1949			Character of case CIVIL RIGHTS AND DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

SYNOPSIS:

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

Informant, who refused to divulge his source of information, advised that his source told him that "the murder plot" was hatched at a meeting at the headquarters of the UAW and was attended by ~~the~~ ABOUT, Assistant to GEORGE ADDES, former Secretary-Treasurer of the International Union, W. GRANT, former President of Ford Local 600, CARL E. BOLTON and another individual, whose name informant could not recall but promised to furnish to Detroit Office upon return to Detroit. Informant also claims that his source, whom he describes as being reliable and in a position to know" told him that FRANK AMARADO did the shooting of both REUTHER brothers and an individual whose name is COLORDY (phonetic) owned one of the cars which was used as the get-away car in connection with the first REUTHER shooting. According to informant's source, the above individuals are members of the PETE LICOVOLI gang in Detroit. According to informant, R. J. THOMAS, former International President of UAW and RICHARD LEONARD, former Vice President of UAW, had knowledge of fact that an attempt would be made to kill both REUTHER brothers. Investigation conducted concerning possible suspects in instant case.

- P -

Approved and  
Forwarded:EDWARD SCHEIDT, Special Agent  
in Charge

13 MAR 17 1950

1949-116  
55  
30

Excerpt from page 27.

NY 44-133

ADMINISTRATIVE PAGE (Continued)

LOUIS CAPLINER  
Detroit, Assistant to VICTOR REUTHER

"From all reports I have had on him, I believe he is a fag and a lish and is a very sensitive socialist. The way he acts he is almost in love with WALTER REUTHER. He is very ambitious for WALTER and does a lot of writing for him but that is all I know about him."

BRENDON SEXTON  
Detroit, Assistant to VICTOR REUTHER

"BRENDON is a socialist and it was through his efforts that WALTER REUTHER was elected. BRENDON is a good guy but is not happy over the line that WALTER has been talking. He is a person of high intellect but that is all I know."

HAROLD CRANFIELD  
Chief Counsel,  
UAW-CIO

"HAROLD is considered to be a good lawyer and is considered to be a specialist in the labor relations field. He is thoroughly pro-labor and I know he is in on all the discussions concerning the violence in the REUTHER shootings."

"He at one time told him that he thought that perhaps the bowling alley mob in Detroit had done the shootings due to racial discrimination factors."

"I do not have much information on HAROLD, however, a former Special Agent of your office, JAKE SPOLEANSKY, would know all about CRANFIELD. POLEANSKY is or was an investigator for the American Jewish Committee and is at the present time or was very close to HAROLD."



June 1 Specter

Dear Mr. Maffitt:

Your letter dated August 6, 1951, has been received.

Although I would like to be of service, I thought you might like to know that the FBI is solely an investigative, fact-finding agency and it is not within my province to comment on the book and author mentioned in your letter.

Sincerely yours,

John Edgar Hoover  
Director

NOTE: Bufiles reflect no identifiable information re correspondent. In April, 1951, the book "The Communist Trail in America" by Jacob Spolansky was received by the Bureau and reviewed. (100-179502) The Espionage Section is of the opinion that the material in this book is not pertinent to, nor has any current value in the active espionage field of today, and the author draws heavily from public source data. Mr. Spolansky is a former SA of the Bureau of Investigation born in Russia and entered the United States in 1909. His activities have been of such a nature that he is looked upon unfavorably at this time by the Bureau. In 1943, the Special Agent in Charge at Detroit, stated that he was one of the most artful, undependable, unreliable, double-crossing, conniving, professional informants. (67-1989-12)

VKA: par

10/27/62  
Verification for account  
former services for Fred Hagen  
transmitted to Fred and Kaye  
3349 14th Ave. NYC  
Alvin Karpman  
through Special Agent  
CAN



13A  
M'KEAN MAFFITT  
1219 BRYAN AVE.  
WILMINGTON, N. C.

Aug. 6th. 1951.

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover,  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:-

I am reading a recent book by Jacob Spolansky, "The Communist Trail in America". It was published by the Macmillan Co.

The jacket blurb says that Spolansky is a special investigator, confidential agent etc. That he served as investigator for the Hamilton Fish Committee on Unamerican activities, later for the Dies Committee.

In the introduction Spolansky says that he was called into the Army Intelligence Branch. That he was appointed on July 19th. 1919 to the Bureau of Investigation, now called FBI.

100 - 177502 - 57  
ORIGINAL FILE IN  
This book is so amazing that I desire to know something about the author. Is he honest, is his integrity unimpeachable? Can I depend upon the authenticity of his statements?  
RECORDED - 33  
1951  
67-1989-17

I may desire to use this information in addressing the public, and do not want my hand called.

Thanking you for your time and attention, I am,

Sincerely, /1/

M'Kean Maffitt.

# COVER TO COVER

*Jacob Spolansky Tells of Viewing Start  
At Secret Meetings in Woods of Illinois*

**"THE COMMUNIST TRAIL IN AMERICA," by Jacob Spolansky. (Macmillan, \$3.50.)**

By WILLARD EDWARDS

**T**HE midwestern origins of the Communist conspiracy in the United States have been obscured by the passing of three decades. Chicago was originally regarded as the ideal headquarters for the American branch of the comintern, the advantages of New York City not becoming apparent until later.

Jacob Spolansky hid under a pile of leaves in the Cook county forest preserve near River Forest on May 15, 1920, and heard the wrangling of some 60 delegates to the first secret convention of Communists in America.

A fateful decision issued from that conference—the agreement to accept orders from Moscow rather than to establish an independent party sympathetic with, but not subservient to, the Russian regime.

The author, born in Russia

under the last czar, was richly equipped for service as confidential agent. He came to this country a husky, intelligent young man who worked at menial tasks until he felt himself ready to found the first Russian language newspaper in Chicago in 1914. Four years later, the Army intelligence enlisted him as an operative in the detection of subversive operations.

**D**URING the next 30 years, as FBI agent, police and private detective, and congressional investigator, he watched the Soviet conspiracy against a free society grow.

The first 100 pages of Mr. Spolansky's report are a colorful recounting of his personal experiences in the early days of the underground plotting. He tells of a raid upon another secret convention in August, 1922, in the wooded region near St. Joseph, Mich.

He helped in the first arrest of William Z. Foster and Earl Browder in a west side meeting hall in Chicago. He sketches the careers of these and other well-known conspirators.

The second half of the book is largely a rehash of congressional reports and court trials, interspersed with personal observations which would make headlines if proved true.

**I**NTELLIGENCE agents in Washington will be highly interested in the statement, unsupported by evidence, that Browder is now plotting a new international with Tito of Yugoslavia, another Communist leader in disfavor with Stalin.

Washington inquiries have led to speculation in quite another direction.

Mr. Spolansky's book is particularly valuable because it serves to recall that the military, justice and immigration departments were alerted almost from the beginning to the Communist menace.

Long and detailed reports were made on the instigation of strikes, incitement of racial unrest, espionage, illegal fund raising and sabotage of production. It served the purposes of the men who ran the government to ignore this evidence until a comparatively recent period.

0-18  
Tolson ☒  
Ladd ☒  
Clegg ☒  
Glavin ☒  
Nichols ☒  
Rosen ☒  
Tracy ☒  
Harbo ☒  
Belmont ☒  
Mohr ☒  
Tele. Room ☒  
Nease ☒  
Gandy ☒ *Newy*

*Barbengardner*

*Subcommittee*

*Personnel*

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0 JUN 22 1951

Page

Times-Herald 24

Wash. Post ☐

Wash. News ☐

Wash. Star ☐

N.Y. Mirror ☐

N. Y. Compass ☐

Date:

*file 5-11-51*

March 26, 1953

Mr. William S. Visokay  
Director of Safety  
Bridgeport Brass Company  
30 Grand Street  
Bridgeport 2; Connecticut

Jacob Spolansky

Dear Mr. Visokay:

Your letter of March 20, 1953, has been received.

As you are aware, the files of the FBI are confidential and available for official use only and, therefore, I am precluded from being of assistance regarding the individuals you name.

The thought occurs to me that you may desire to contact the Chairman, Munitions Board, Department of Defense, The Pentagon, Washington, D. C., who is charged with the responsibility for the protection of industrial facilities. That office may be able to be of service to you.

Sincerely yours,

John Edgar Hoover  
Director

cc; New Haven, with copy of incoming

NOTE: Bufile 100-345432 and 62-93929 reflects that Visokay has on several occasions corresponded with the Bureau and requested information from our files. He has been informed, of course, that no information could be furnished him. On 2-11-52 he inquired re the Worthington Investigation Service of Springfield,

(NOTE continued on next page)

HPL:afk

89 APR 28 1953

Letter to Mr. William S. Visokay

March 26, 1953

## NOTE: (continued)

Massachusetts, and wanted to know if they were a reliable concern and said he was contemplating using their plant protection services at his plant. On 2-19-52 he was given a files confidential answer.

Bufile 67-1989 reflects that Spolansky was an employee of the Bureau of Investigation. We have received numerous inquiries regarding this man's activities. In 1943, SAC, Detroit, described Spolansky as undependable, unreliable, double-crossing, and conniving. On March 26, 1947, Mr. Nichols received a call from George Cushing of WJR. Cushing said Governor Sigler was contemplating hiring Spolansky as an investigator. Mr. Nichols informed Cushing that the FBI would have nothing to do with Spolansky and that he should be very cautious in any dealings with him.

Bufile 67-284051 reflects one Peter S. Lersch was a Bureau applicant in January, 1942. He was not considered for employment as allegations were received that he was pro-German and had written speeches for the America First Committee. It is not possible to ascertain whether he is identical with individual in correspondent's letter.

## BRIDGEPORT BRASS COMPANY

BRIDGEPORT 2, CONN.

March 20, 1953

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover, Director  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Hoover:

From time to time whenever I've called upon your men for assistance, they have been very kind; however, I thought I might write to you directly this time relative to this matter.

Mr. Peter Lersch, formerly employed by the Philadelphia Daily News, address unknown, however, he has a New York telephone, Regent 7-7254; called on me today relative to a former F.B.I. agent whose name he gave as Jacob Spolonsky. Mr. Lersch claimed that he was visiting the various security officers at the larger industrial plants gathering information on which Mr. Spolonsky would incorporate into a bulletin form for issue to management and security officers relative to communism, un-American activities, espionage, sabotage, etc.

I asked Mr. Lersch several direct questions as to where this information would be forthcoming and he informed me that Mr. Spolonsky had connections through his past activities in exposing communism with the Un-American Committee and the Dies Committee.

He could get information that would be very valuable to all industry. In other words, he would be a clearing house for industrial plants. As you know, this information would be most valuable to us in security for the protection of our people and all plants. We would be requested to pay for any services that either of these men would render in giving this information to us.

My reason for writing to you is that before we do anything of this sort, we certainly would want to know whether or not these two people are reliable and whether the information they would give us would be dependable. We know from experience that the Federal Bureau of Investigation have been most cooperative whenever they could. Although due to your strict rules, we have not been able to get information we would like, however, we have agreed and have followed your instructions in all cases. We probably would be willing to seek the services of these two gentlemen, but we want to be sure that the information that we would receive would be reliable and that we could depend upon it because there is also a possibility in becoming involved in a serious civil action when accusing one of being affiliated with un-American activities and releasing him from his employment with our company.

Would you please give my letter careful consideration and let me know if we should enter in the purchasing any of these services from

ORIGINAL FILED IN 65-13129-7

RECORDED 67-1927-18

BRIDGEPORT BRASS CO.

Mr. J. Edgar Hoover, Director  
Federal Bureau of Investigation

March 20, 1953

- 2 -

either of these two gentlemen. Thank you very kindly for your cooperation  
to us, I am

Very truly yours,

BRIDGEPORT BRASS COMPANY.

/s/ Wm S Visokay

William S. Visokay  
Director of Safety

WSV/ag

May 3, 1953

TELETYPE

FBI NYC 5-2-53 11-45 PM JLM  
DIRECTOR AND SACS NEWARK AND CLEVELAND URGENT

UNSUBS, THEFT OF BLUEPRINTS FROM INSPECTION DIVISION, DIESEL ENGINE  
PLANT, GENERAL MOTORS CORPORATION, CLINTON ROAD, CLEVELAND, OHIO,  
NINETEEN FORTYTHREE - FORTYFIVE, ARNOLD JOHNSON, THAD L, MASON.  
ESPIONAGE - R. RE NEWARK TEL MAY TWO FIFTYTHREE AND BUTELCALL  
MAY TWO FIFTYTHREE. JACOB SPOLANSKY, FORMER SPECIAL AGENT FBI,  
INTERVIEWED INSTANT DATE AND STATED APPROXIMATELY FALL NINETEEN FIFTY  
TWO MASON WROTE LETTER TO POLISH AMERICAN JOURNAL, SCRANTON, PA. SEEK-  
ING OUTLET TO WRITE ABOUT HIS EXPERIENCES. LEOPOLD DENDE, NATIONAL  
NEWS EDITOR FOR PAPER AND SUBJECT IS - R AND PO NEWARK ORIGIN,  
INFORMED SPOLANSKY RE MASON AND SPOLANSKY SUGGESTED DENDE BRING  
MASON TO HIS RESIDENCE SO HE, SPOLANSKY, "COULD SIZE HIM UP".  
MEETING TOOK PLACE TWO DAYS LATER. MASON SPOKE TO SPOLANSKY TEN  
TO FIFTEEN MINUTES ON TOPICS - AMERICAN SLAV CONGRESS., POLONIA  
SOCIETY, I.W.O. SPOLANSKY ADVISED MASON, LATTER HAD GOOD STORY  
WHICH WOULD INTEREST FBI AND ASKED WHETHER MASON HAD NOTIFIED FBI, AND  
IF NOT MASON SHOULD GET IN TOUCH WITH FBI. MASON REPLIED HE GAVE FBI  
SEVENTEEN PAGE STATEMENT CONCERNING SELF, SPOKE TO FBI ON SHIP  
ON DATE OF HIS ARRIVAL IN U.S. AND HAS BEEN IN CONTACT WITH THEM AND

1989-19  
254  
104

147  
MAY 26 1953

PAGE TWO

HAS BEEN HELPING THEM. ACCORDING TO SPOLANSKY, MASON CONTACTED UNKNOWN PRIEST IN NEW JERSEY WHO MADE APPOINTMENT FOR MASON TO SEE PRESIDENT MEENEY /PHONETIC/ OR VICE - PRESIDENT MATTHEW WOHL BOTH AF OF L. MASON WAS THEN PLACED BY ONE OF LATTER IN CONTACT WITH JAY LOVESTONE. AS RESULT MASON SUBMITTED TWO ARTICLES TO THE AF OF L OFFICIAL PUBLICATION, NAME UNKNOWN, BUT DEALING WITH INTERNATIONAL LABOR MATTERS. OF WHICH LOVESTONE IS DIRECTOR. SHORTLY THEREAFTER MASON SUBMITTED TO SPOLANSKY STORIES RE HIS EXPERIENCES. SPOLANSKY TOLD MASON HE CONSIDERED STORIES AS SET FORTH "VERY DRY AND UNIMPRESSIVE" AND ADDED I-D LIKE TO SIT DOWN WITH YOU AND TAKE NOTES AND GET ALL THE BACKGROUND INFORMATION ABOUT YOURSELF PARTICULARLY HIGHLIGHTS RE POLAND, HIS FAMILY AND EDUCATION. MASON COMPILED SEVERAL PAGES RE LIFE PRIOR TO CP MEMBERSHIP. AT NEXT MEETING WITH SPOLANSKY, MASON TALKED ABOUT CP MOVEMENT, VARIOUS JOBS HELD BY HIM. SPOLANSKY NOTED THAT ALTHOUGH A COLLEGE GRADUATE, MASON HELD ONLY MENIAL JOBS AND WAS SEEKING REASON FOR THIS FOR HUMAN INTEREST SAKE AS EXPLANATION FOR MEMBERSHIP IN CP. AT THIS TIME SPOLANSKY NOTED POSSIBILITY OF WRITING BOOK RE MASON-S EXPERIENCES. ABOUT MASON-S THIRD VISIT SPOLANSKY GAVE MASON HIS, SPOLANSKY-S BOOK, "COMMUNIST TRAIL IN THE UNITED STATES", AND SUGGESTED MASON USE BOOK AS GUIDE, SPECIFICALLY WITH RESPECT TO MASON-S

END OF PAGE TWO



PAGE THREE

PERSONAL RELATIONS WITH KNOWN CP MEMBERS INCLUDING POL SLAW GERBERT CURRENTLY IN POLAND AND CONNECTED WITH WORLD FEDERATION OF TRADE UNIONS. SPOLANSKY REMARKED GERBERT WAS MASON-S "GUARDIAN ANGEL". SPOLANSKY STATED THAT APPROXIMATELY OCT OR NOVEMBER FIFTYTWO HE ASKED MASON SPECIFICALLY WHETHER MASON HAD BEEN ASKED TO CONDUCT ESPIONAGE OR SABOTAGE AGAINST THE U.S. BY ANYONE OR WHETHER SUCH ACTIVITY HAD EVER BEEN SUGGESTED OR INFERRED TO HIM. MASON ADMITTED HIS ESPIONAGE AS BROUGHT OUT BY MASON-S TESTIMONY. SPOLANSKY MENTIONED HE WANTED TO DRAW EVERYTHING OUT OF MASON REGARDING THE ENTIRE CP MOVEMENT IN ALL OF ITS PHASES AND PROCEEDED TO DO THIS IN SEVERAL STAGES. IN REFERENCE TO "SABOTAGE IN THE US" MASON ADVISED SPOLANSKY THAT HE WAS NOT INSTRUCTED TO OBTAIN JOB WITH DUPONT FOR "SABOTAGE" PURPOSES BUT HAD OBTAINED THIS JOB ON HIS OWN FOR ORDINARY EMPLOYMENT REASONS. AFTER MASON RELATED HIS ESPIONAGE STORY SPOLANSKY REALIZED "THE SIGNIFICANCE OF ALL THIS" AND GOT IN TOUCH WITH DON OPPEL, INVESTIGATOR FOR SENATE INTERNAL SECURITY COMMITTEE. ARRANGEMENTS WERE THEN MADE FOR OPPEL TO QUESTION MASON AT SPOLANSKY-S RESIDENCE. SPOLANSKY STATED THAT OPPEL "DID NOT PAY TOO MUCH ATTENTION TO ESPIONAGE OR SABOTAGE STORY" BUT WAS PARTICULARLY INTERESTED IN DISCREPANCY APPEARING IN MASON-S STORY AS TO HIS ESCAPE FROM POLAND. SPOLANSKY STATED THAT MASON EXPLAINED THAT HE HAD EFFECTED HIS ESCAPE

END OF PAGE THREE

PAGE FOUR

FROM POLAND BY INSERTING AN ADDITIONAL PAGE INTO HIS PASSPORT BOOK INDICATING PROPER PERMISSION TO LEAVE POLAND. IN JANUARY FIFTYTHREE SPOLANSKY SAW DON CONNERS, SENATE INVESTIGATOR AND FORMER FBI AGENT, IN WASH., DC AND SUGGESTED CONNERS WHO HAD KNOWLEDGE OF ESPIONAGE ACTIVITIES, "GET MASON UNDER OATH AND EXTRACT IT FROM HIM". SHORTLY THEREAFTER CONNERS AND COLLEAGUE ED DUFFY, INTERVIEWED MASON IN SPOLANSKY-S APARTMENT AND WERE "TERIBLY IMPRESSED WITH STORY". AS A RESULT APPROXIMATELY ONE WEEK LATER MASON WAS SUBPOENAED. AFTER MASON TESTIFIED, SPOLANSKY READ A TRANSCRIPT, AND NOTED NO DEVIATION FROM HIS STORY TO SPOLANSKY AS REFLECTED IN MASON-S DRAFT SUBMITTED TO SPOLANSKY FOR PREPARATION OF A BOOK. TEN DAYS LATER MASON AGAIN TESTIFIED IN EXECUTIVE SESSION HOWEVER SPOLANSKY DID NOT READ TRANSCRIPT. SPOLANSKY STATED SHORTLY THEREAFTER FRANK SCHROEDER /PH/ OF INTERNAL SECURITY COMMITTEE TOLD SPOLANSKY THAT MASON "IS A GOLD MINE" AND GAVE CORROBORATIVE INFO RE SECRET PRINTING PROCESS PRESUMABLY USED BY CP, USA/. SCHROEDER ADDED THAT MASON GAVE MUCH INFO ON IMPORTANT POLISH PERSONALITIES, POLISH RESEARCH AND INFORMATION SERVICE, POLISH PRESS AGENCY AND POLISH EMBASSY. SPOLANSKY STATED THAT HE ADVISED INVESTIGATORS THAT HE DID NOT BELIEVE IN PUBLIC HEARINGS IN THIS INSTANCE. SPOLANSKY STATED THAT ON APRIL TWENTYFOUR LAST DUFFY DESIRED TO CONTACT MASON WHO WAS ENROUTE LOS ANGELES.

END OF PAGE FOUR

PAGE FIVE

VIA CHICAGO. MASON WAS REACHED AT HIS DAUGHTER'S RESIDENCE, IRIS MASON, TWO FIVE FOUR ZERO SOUTH FOURTH AVENUE, L. A. EIGHTEEN, CALIF., WHERE HE WAS GIVEN TRANSPORTATION TO WASH., DC. ACCORDING TO SPOLANSKY, SENATOR WELKER SET UP THE HEARING WHICH WAS TELEvised TUESDAY APRIL TWENTYEIGHT LAST. ON EVENING OF APRIL TWENTYEIGHT LAST MASON PHONED SPOLANSKY FROM WASH., STATING HE "HAD MADE A SLIP OF THE TONGUE" WHILE TESTIFYING RE LOCATION OF PHOTOGRAPHING OF THE BLUEPRINTS. IT DID NOT HAPPEN IN THE BASEMENT BUT OCCURRED IN STORAGE ROOM BEHIND COUNTER IN RESTAURANT AS REFLECTED IN NOTES MASON HAD SUBMITTED TO SPOLANSKY. SPOLANSKY EXPLAINED HE HAD SPENT CONSIDERABLE TIME WITH MASON TO OBTAIN HIS STORY. HE HAD AN ORAL AGREEMENT BUT NO WRITTEN AGREEMENT TO EXPLOIT A BOOK ON MASON'S EXPERIENCES. WHEN SPOLANSKY HEARD SHORTLY PRIOR TO MASON'S DEPARTURE FOR LA THAT MASON HAD BEEN CONTACTING HOWARD RUSHMORE, COLUMNIST OF NY JOURNAL AMERICAN, COUNTERATTACK, AND THE NEW LEADER, SPOLANSKY BECAME AFRAID FOR HIS OWN EQUITY AND ASKED MASON TO GIVE HIM WRITTEN AUTHORIZATION PERMITTING SPOLANSKY TO ENGAGE A WRITER FOR THE BOOK AT A PRICE NOT TO EXCEED FIFTY PER CENT OF THE INCOME. TO DATE SPOLANSKY HAS NOT ENGAGED ANYONE. HOWEVER HE SPOKE TO ONE PERSON WHO BELIEVED STORY HAS GREAT ANTI COMMUNIST PROPAGANDA. SPOLANSKY RECEIVED ABOVE AUTHORIZATION FROM AL BY MAIL.

END OF PAGE FIVE

PAGE SIX

SPOLANSKY MADE AVAILABLE TO BUREAU AGENTS ALL OF MASON'S TYPE WRITTEN DRAFTS FOR THE BOOK WHICH HE REQUESTED BE RETURNED TO HIM. THESE DRAFTS HAVE BEEN TRANSMITTED THIS DATE BY COURIER TO NEWARK. FOR INFO PURPOSES, SPOLANSKY STATED THAT HE BELIEVES MASON'S STORY OF ESPIONAGE AND SABOTAGE TO BE TRUE AND SINCERELY BELIEVES MASON TO BE HONEST AND SINCERE. HE FEELS MASON IS PHYSICALLY ILL BUT NOT MENTALLY ILL. SPOLANSKY STATED HE HIMSELF IS WILLING TO COOPERATE IN THIS MATTER FULLY IN ANYWAY DESIRED BY BUREAU SINCE HE FEELS THAT MASON HAS COMPLETE CONFIDENCE IN HIM. SPOLANSKY GAVE INTERVIEWING AGENTS IMPRESSION THAT HE BELIEVED MASON WAS UNDER ARREST FOR ESPIONAGE. NO COMMENT RE THIS WAS MADE BY AGENTS. SPOLANSKY WAS NOT ADVISED THAT MASON HAD WITHHELD INFORMATION ON ALLEGED ESPIONAGE ACTIVITIES FROM BUREAU.

BOARDMAN

END ACK FLS

WA 1213 AM OK FBI WA ELR

CV

OK FBI CV RGN

ME OK FBI NY WHI

TH DSC

TO : The Director

DATE: May 1, 1953

FROM : D. M. Ladd

SUBJECT: THAD L. MASON, was  
ESPIONAGE - RJACOB SPOLANSKY  
MISCELLANEOUS - INFORMATION CONCERNING  
(ESPIONAGE)*Jacob Spolansky*

## SYNOPSIS:

Thad L. Mason testified on April 28, 1953, at a public hearing of the Jenner Committee that he made General Motors Corporation blueprints available to be reproduced for transmittal to the Soviets. Mason was interviewed by Bureau Agents concerning his testimony on April 30, 1953, at which time he said he had agreed to write a series of articles followed by a book detailing his activities. He said his partner in this undertaking is Jacob Spolansky. Bufiles reflect Spolansky was in the employ of the Bureau of Investigation from July 19, 1919, to March 7, 1924. Following his resignation, Spolansky was employed by the "Chicago Daily News," in which paper appeared a series of articles believed to have been written by Spolansky based on his official duties with the Bureau of Investigation. In 1951 Spolansky was the author of a book "The Communist Trail in America." This book was reviewed at the Bureau and it was determined the book is not pertinent nor has any current value in the active espionage field and that the author drew heavily from public source material. Former SAC Bugas described Spolansky as the most artful, undependable, unreliable, double-crossing, conniving professional informant he knew.

RECOMMENDATION:

For your information.

65-NTH  
cc - 67-1989

110

JUN 1 1953

67-1989-20
Searched <i>10/</i>
Number <i>10/</i>
MAY 25 1953
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

ORIGINAL FILED IN 65-1989

## DETAILS:

Thad L. Mason testified at a public hearing before the Senate Subcommittee on Internal Security (Jenner Committee) on April 28, 1953, that while employed at a General Motors Corporation plant, Clinton Road, Cleveland, on Communist Party instructions he furnished blueprints of diesel engine parts used in landing crafts to a counterman in the company cafeteria who in turn gave the blueprints to an unidentified dishwasher who photographed the material in a basement storage room. Mason was interviewed by Bureau Agents on April 30, 1953, concerning his testimony. During the course of this interview, Mason mentioned he has agreed to write a series of articles concerning his activities for a news syndicate to be followed by a book. Mason said his partner and "agent" in this undertaking is Jacob Spolansky, whom he described as a former Department of Justice employee who is urging him to start writing his series of articles.

Concerning Jacob Spolansky, Bufiles reflect the following information:

Background and Association with the Bureau:

Spolansky stated on his application for employment to the position of Special Agent of the Department of Justice dated February 20, 1919, at Chicago, Illinois, that he was 29 years old at that time. On a subsequent application, Spolansky said he was born at Kieff, Russia. His personnel file reflects he came to the United States in 1909 and became a naturalized citizen in 1915. Spolansky entered into the employ of the Bureau of Investigation on July 19, 1919, and resigned as of March 7, 1924, as a Special Agent of the Bureau of Investigation. The majority of his assignments were in the Chicago area and concerned the investigation of subversive activities.

### Newspaper and Literary Work:

While still on annual leave prior to his separation from the Bureau of Investigation, Spolansky was engaged in writing a series of articles for the "Chicago Daily News." During this period an article appeared in the "Chicago Daily News" dealing with jewel smuggling operations and although the source of this article could not be proven, Spolansky had complete knowledge of the details of the case in question inasmuch as he had investigated various phases in an official capacity.

On October 10, 1924, the Chicago Office advised of the commencement of a series of articles in the "Chicago Daily News" captioned "Chicago Plot of the Reds Exposed by a United States Secret Service Agent," the author of which was former Agent Spolansky. In the same communication the Chicago Office advised of the disappearance of a number of documents seized in the Bridgman raid (Communist) which were discovered shortly after Spolansky's separation from the service. It was pointed out, however, that no information had been obtained to substantiate the suspicion that Spolansky had removed the documents from the Chicago Office.

In 1951 the book "The Communist Trail in America" written by Jacob Spolansky was published by the MacMillian Company. Upon review of this book at the Bureau it was determined that the book is not pertinent to nor has any current value in the active espionage field. It was further noted the author drew heavily from public source data for his material.

### Connection with the Dies Committee:

In October, 1938, Spolansky testified before the Dies Committee stating that he had worked for the Department of Justice for six years and testified generally regarding Communist and other radical activities, mentioning several alleged Communists specifically.



Investigative Activities:

On several occasions in 1942 and 1943, informants reported Spolansky was attempting to obtain information on numerous situations, activities, organizations and individuals in the Detroit area, among which were the National Workers League, the Ku-Klux Klan, the Negro situation in Detroit, Nazi activities and Communist activities. According to the informants, Spolansky was making this information available to the Dies Committee; Captain Jake Mills, Chicago Police Department, Subversive Squad, who is Spolansky's uncle; an investigator for G-2; the American Jewish Committee; and OHI.

Miscellaneous Activities:

In November, 1939, information was received to the effect Spolansky was at that time working as a special investigator with a one-man grand jury being held by Judge Homer Ferguson inquiring into police graft charges in the city of Detroit.

In September, 1940, Spolansky was a candidate for the office of sheriff, Wayne County, Michigan, on the Republican ticket. In his campaign literature, Spolansky emphasized his activities in combating Communist and other radical elements, stressing the vice and radical conditions existing in the city of Detroit.

Relations with the Detroit Office of the FBI:

On August 22, 1942, a confidential informant at Detroit advised he had information that Spolansky was attempting to create the impression that he was working directly for the FBI and was being paid for his efforts.

[redacted] who was at that time [redacted] of the [redacted] in Detroit, related on January 22, 1943, that he had been in contact with Spolansky and on several occasions Spolansky made the remark, "I am going to get those G [redacted] D [redacted] guys at the FBI in Detroit." b7D

As a result of his contact with Spolansky, former SAC Pugas described him as the most artful, undependable, unreliable, double-crossing, conniving professional informant he knew.



July 17 1954

Teletype

WASH 3 FROM NEW YORK

17

12-14A

DIRECTOR

URGENT

*Jacob Spilansky*

PETER LERSCH, INFO. CONCERNING. ON INSTANT DATE, [REDACTED]

[REDACTED] THIRTY NINTH AVE., BEECHURST,

b7D

TELEPHONICALLY ADVISED THIS OFFICE THAT SHE IS EMPLOYED BY

[REDACTED] AGENCY, NYC, AND LAST NIGHT

ATTENDED A COCKTAIL PARTY GIVEN BY THE AGENCY AT WHICH MR. LERSCH,

A WRITER WHO IS DOING SOME OF THE HERBERT PHILBRICK STORIES FOR

TV, WAS PRESENT. LERSCH WAS SLIGHTLY INTOXICATED AND TOLD HER THAT

HE WAS A PERSONAL FRIEND OF ONE MR. SPILANSKY /PH./ WHOM HE

STATED WAS ON THE STAFF OF OR CONNECTED WITH THE MC CARTHY

COMMITTEE AND THAT HE BUYS INFO FROM SPILANSKY. LERSCH TOLD HER

THAT SPILANSKY NOW WORKING ON THE GENERAL ELECTRIC INVESTIGATION

AND THAT SPILANSKY GIVES HIM INFO WHICH HE USES IN STORIES HE

WRITES AND HE PAYS SPILANSKY IN CASH SO THAT NO ONE CAN CHECK UP ON

IT. COMPLAINANT ADVISED THAT SHE WAS A [REDACTED] ON

b7D

THE STAFF OF [REDACTED] DURING [REDACTED] AND

REQUESTED THAT HER NAME BE KEPT COMPLETELY CONFIDENTIAL. SHE

STATED THAT SHE PREFERRED NOT TO BE CONTACTED AT HOME. IT SHOULD

BE NOTED NY FILES INDICATE THAT THE COMPLAINANT, ALSO KNOWN AS

[REDACTED] WAS SUBJECT OF A SPECIAL INQUIRY IN 67-1743-21

JAN. NINETEEN FIFTYTHREE, MY FILE [REDACTED]

END PAGE NO. 139

12 AUG 6

PAGE TWO...

[REDACTED] NO DEROGATORY INFORMATION WAS DEVELOPED. IT IS BELIEVED PETER LERSCH IS IDENTICAL WITH AN INDIVIDUAL OF THE SAME NAME WHO ON MAY FIVENINETEEN FIFTYTHREE, RESIDED AT ONE NINE TWO EAST SEVENTYFIFTH ST., NY, NY, AND WHO FURNISHED A SIGNED STATEMENT TO AGENTS OF THIS OFFICE IN CONNECTION WITH HIS RELATIONSHIP WITH ONE THADDEUS MASON, SUBJECT OF NY FILE SIXTYFIVE DASH ONE SIX THREE TWO FIVE, BUFILE SIXTYFIVE DASH SIX ONE SEVEN FIVE THREE. IN THIS STATEMENT LERSCH ALSO INDICATED THAT JACOB SPOLANSKY INTRODUCED HIM TO THAD MASON FOR THE PURPOSE OF HAVING MASON FURNISH HIM INFORMATION AS TO MASON-S ACTIVITIES FOR THE PURPOSE OF WRITING A STORY CONCERNING THEM. CONSEQUENTLY, IT IS BELIEVED THAT SPILANSKY REFERRED TO BY [REDACTED] IS IDENTICAL WITH JACOB SPOLANSKY, WHO IS ALSO A FORMER AGENT OF THE FBI. IT IS ALSO BELIEVED THAT LERSCH IS IDENTICAL WITH PETER STANLEY LERSCH, SUBJECT OF A SECURITY MATTER GERMAN CASE OF THIS OFFICE ONE HUNDRED DASH SIX TWO TWO NINE TWO. THIS LATTER CASE WAS CLOSED IN NINETEEN FORTYFOUR AS THE INVESTIGATION FAILED TO INDICATE LERSCH WAS ENGAGED IN SUBVERSIVE ACTIVITIES. THE ABOVE IS SUBMITTED FOR THE BUREAU'S INFORMATION.

KELLY

END

HOLD

NY R 3 WA WS

b7D

## Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Mr. Mohr

DATE: 11-15-54

FROM : H. L. Edwards

SUBJECT: JACOB SPOLANSKY  
 EOD 7-19-19 - Special Employee  
 EOD 4-1-20 - Special Agent  
 Resigned 3-7-24  
 Former Special Agent  
 SERVICE RECORD INQUIRY

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
 Boardman \_\_\_\_\_  
 Nichols \_\_\_\_\_  
 Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
 Harbo \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
 Parsons \_\_\_\_\_  
 Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
 Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
 Sizoo \_\_\_\_\_  
 Winterrowd \_\_\_\_\_  
 Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
 Holloman \_\_\_\_\_  
 Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

Referral/Direct

A request dated 11-10-54 has been received from the Name Check Section, Investigative Division, for the service record of former SA Jacob Spolansky based on a request from the Immigration and Naturalization Service (INS), Department of Justice.

Spolansky entered on duty in the Bureau 7-19-19 as a Special Employee and was appointed Special Agent 4-1-20 and served in the Chicago Office until voluntarily resigning effective at the close of business 3-7-24.

Spolansky's letter of resignation dated 1-23-24 reflects that he had received an offer from the Chicago Daily News to write a series of articles on the radical situation in the United States. Bureau records concerning Spolansky's post-Bureau activities contain extensive information concerning him, and the Name Check Section advised that the pertinent information concerning his post-Bureau activities will be disseminated by their division. Briefly, this information reflects that after resigning a series of articles appeared in the Chicago Daily News, believed to have been written by Spolansky based on his official duties with the FBI. He was the author of a book "The Communist Threat in America" in 1951. In October, 1938, Spolansky testified before the Dies Committee that he worked for the Department of Justice 6 years and testified generally regarding Communist and other radical activities. On several occasions in 1942 and 1943 informants reported that he was trying to get information by numerous situations in the Detroit area such as the National Workers' League, the KKK, the negro situation in Detroit, and Nazi and Communist activities and furnishing this data to the Dies Committee, Chicago Police Department, the American Jewish Committee and Office of Naval Intelligence. An informant in Detroit 8-22-42 stated Spolansky was trying to create the impression that he was

CC - SA J. E. Foley, rm 6130 IB  
 Attachment

WBH:lam

63 NOV 20 1954

working directly for the FBI and being paid for his efforts. [ ]  
[ ] advised 1-22-43 as [ ] of the [ ] that he had been in  
contact with Spolansky and on several occasions heard the latter say  
"I am going to get those G\_\_ d\_\_ guys at the FBI in Detroit." Former  
SAC Bugas as a result of his contact with Spolansky described him as the  
most artful, undependable, unreasonable, double-crossing, conniving,  
professional informant he knew. That L. Mason, Russian espionage subject,  
testified 4-28-53 at a public hearing of the Jenner Committee that he  
made General Motors Corporation blueprints available to be reproduced  
for transmittal to the Soviets. Mason had been interviewed by Bureau  
agents concerning his testimony 4-30-53 when he said he had agreed to  
write a series of articles followed by a book concerning his activities  
and named Spolansky as his partner in this undertaking. Information  
received from an informant reflects that Spolansky as of 9-9-54 was in  
Detroit, claiming to be working for the McCarthy Committee on a move to  
boom Senator McCarthy for president. During his short period of service  
as a Special Agent in the Bureau his file reflects no administrative  
action had been taken against him.

In view of the above facts it is deemed appropriate to make  
no comment in the attached service record summary concerning the quality  
of his Bureau service, character or integrity.

RECOMMENDATION

That the attached service record summary be approved and be  
routed to SA J. E. Foley, room 6130 IB, Name Check Section, Investigative  
Division, for referral to INS.

OK JPM  
ene 11-15

Prepared by  
Checked by  
Filed by:

MAILED

NOV 17 1954

NAME CHECK

November 16, 1954

MEMORANDUM

RE: JACOB SPOLANSKY

Mr. Spolansky entered on duty in this Bureau on July 19, 1919, as a Special Employee. He was appointed to the position of Special Agent on April 1, 1920, and performed investigative duties in the Chicago Office of this Bureau. He submitted his voluntary resignation effective at the close of business March 7, 1924.

This report and its contents are loaned to you by the FBI and are not to be distributed outside of agency to which loaned. This is the result of a request for an FE file check and is not to be considered as clearance.

(L)

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Boardman \_\_\_\_\_  
Nichols \_\_\_\_\_  
Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
Harbo \_\_\_\_\_  
Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Parsons \_\_\_\_\_  
Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
 Sizoo \_\_\_\_\_  
Winterrowd \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Holloman \_\_\_\_\_  
Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

Memorandum prepared for the Name Check Section for transmittal to the Immigration and Naturalization Service U. S. Dept. of Justice.

Mr. E. J. Connelley

JW:WJS

(8)

NOV 29 1954

6-445 JPM  
ALC-10234

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

November 22, 1954

JACOB SPOLANSKY  
Born: December 3, 1889  
Phmelnick, Russia  
C-2 209 736 INV:WHN:JE:mj

Attached is a summary memorandum dated November 16, 1954, of the service record of the captioned individual.

A review of the records of this Bureau failed to disclose any subversive derogatory data concerning Spolansky. It should be pointed out, however, that shortly after his resignation from the FBI on March 7, 1924, a series of articles appeared in the Chicago "Daily News" on the radical situation in the United States. These articles were believed to have been written by Spolansky, based on his official duties with the FBI. He was the author of a book entitled "The Communist Trail in America" which was published in 1951.

For information concerning the captioned individual, you may desire to consult the files of the House Committee on Un-American Activities, once referred to as the Dies Committee. Specifically, you are referred to the 1938 Report of that Committee, Volume II, Page 1310, 1444, and 1485 reflecting Spolansky's testimony regarding Communist activities.

Reliable sources reported during 1942 and 1943 that Spolansky from time to time was making inquiries in the area of Detroit, Michigan, concerning a number of movements or activities. The inquiries included information concerning the National Workers' League, the Ku Klux Klan, the Negro problem in Detroit, as well as Nazi and Communist activities. The sources further advised that Spolansky indicated or gave the impression these inquiries were being made by him on behalf of the Dies Committee, the Chicago Police Department, the American Jewish Committee, and the Office of Naval Intelligence. In August of 1942 it was reliably reported in Detroit, Michigan, that Spolansky was trying to create the impression that he was employed by the FBI. Spolansky has not been employed by the FBI since March 7, 1924.

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Boardman \_\_\_\_\_  
Nichols \_\_\_\_\_  
Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
Harbo \_\_\_\_\_  
Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Parsons \_\_\_\_\_  
Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
 Sizoo \_\_\_\_\_  
Winterrowd \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Holloman \_\_\_\_\_  
Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

Attachment

Office of INS, Central Office

RR 11-3-54

J. E. Foley:svg

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

In 1943 a source of known reliability, having knowledge of Spolansky's activities, characterized Spolansky as being undependable and a conniver.

(67-1989 serial 12)

Thad L. Mason, Russian espionage suspect, testified on April 28, 1953, at a public hearing of the Senate Subcommittee on Internal Security of the Committee on the Judiciary (Jenner Committee). Mason afterward, when interviewed, said he had agreed to write a series of articles to be followed by a book concerning his activities. He named Spolansky as his partner in this undertaking. Pertinent information as to Mason's activities appears in the Jenner Committee records as indicated above.

(100-179502) (65-61753 serial 211)

The foregoing information is furnished to you as a result of your request for an FBI file check and is not to be construed as a clearance or a nonclearance of the individual involved. This information is furnished for your use and should not be disseminated outside of your agency.

~~CONFIDENTIAL~~

## SEARCH SLIP

Subj: Brady, JamesSupervisor NOV 8 1954 Room 9Searcher 9R# 209 Date 11-4 Initial 222

FILE NUMBER

SERIAL

✓ 67-1989-184 Ident✓ 16-276✓ 100-179502 IdentNew Em. Rpt. Vol #2 p#✓ 1310, 1444, 1485 Vol #3 p#231051 Vol #1 p#Fish Laman. Vol #1 Part 4 p#SI 174, 29751✓ 65-61753-211 Sum. 5-1-53✓ 100-179502-43 Sum. 3-23-45✓ 100-179502-227 Sum. 12-42app 125 see refs not listedSPolensky, Jake✓ 100-235903app 50 see refs not listedSPolensky, Japp 10 see refs not listed



## SEARCH SLIP

Subj: Spolensky, Jacob

Supervisor \_\_\_\_\_ Room \_\_\_\_\_

R# 209 Date 11-4 Searcher Initial 8158FILE NUMBERSERIALSpolenski, Jacob100-7351161-7074app. 10 See Refs not listedSpolenski, J.app. 15 See Refs not listedSpolenski, Jakeapp. 50 See Refs not listed

## Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : THE DIRECTOR

DATE: September 22,  
1954FROM : Mr. L. V. Boardman *LBa*SUBJECT: JAKE SPOLANSKI  
INFORMATION CONCERNING

Tolson	✓
Boardman	✓
Belmont	✓
Harbo	✓
Mohr	✓
Parsons	✓
Rosen	✓
Tamm	✓
Sizoo	✓
Winterrowd	✓
Tele. Room	✓
Holloman	✓
Gandy	✓

Bureau Informant [ ] has furnished a report from one of his operatives, [ ] dated September 12, 1954, Detroit, Michigan, in which [ ] states that Jake Spolanski was in Detroit September 9, 1954, and claims to be working for the McCarthy Committee. Spolanski, according to [ ] is evidently working on a move which is booming Senator McCarthy for President and committees are being started all over the country. Spolanski claims nearly 2,000 people have already contributed in New York City and hundreds more have been turned down as they want to keep it limited. According to Spolanski, the names of possible contributors will be sent to a representative in various cities and they will do the contacting for contributions.

b2  
b7D

Spolanski, you will recall, was employed as a Special Agent in the Bureau of Investigation, Department of Justice, from July 19, 1919, until March 7, 1924, and he devoted the majority of his time to the investigation of Communism and other radical activities in the Chicago area. Since then he has established a record as a professional informant and investigator with a very "elastic" code of ethics. For instance, SAC Bugas, at Detroit, in 1943 stated in his opinion Spolanski was "one of the most artful, undependable, unreliable, double-crossing, conniving professional informants I know."

With regard to his relation with the Bureau, at times he has given information to some of our offices but on one occasion he made the statement, "I am going to get those God damned guys at the FBI in Detroit."

ACTION:

None. This is for your information.

RECORDED-61

EX-100

FBI

266 50

Bufile 100-2979502

JDD:de:p

UNRECORDED COPY FILED IN

57

RECEIVED

# FRANK KIRKPATRICK - COMMENTATOR

2501 S. FORTY-THIRD STREET - MILWAUKEE 15, WISCONSIN

March 9, 1955

Mr. Tolson	_____
Mr. Boardman	_____
Mr. Nichols	_____
Mr. Belmont	_____
Mr. Harbo	_____
Mr. Mohr	_____
Mr. Parsons	_____
Mr. Rosen	_____
Mr. Tamm	_____
Mr. Sizoo	_____
Mr. Winterrowd	_____
Tele. Room	_____
Mr. Holloman	_____
Miss Gandy	_____

Mr. John Edgar Hoover, Director  
United States Department of Justice  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Washington 25, D. C.

My dear Mr. Hoover:

In a recent broadcast I referred to communist infiltration of government agencies and excepted the FBI. Almost immediately I received a letter from an Indiana listener taking me to task for the exception and quoting a book by a Mr. Jacob Spolansky as warrant for the charge that the FBI is not doing a good job.

Enclosed is a copy of my response. The name of my listener has been left off the copy sent to you because I am reasonably certain he is just a typical American, confused by the repeated statements that "the communists should be left to the FBI."

Sincerely,

*Frank Kirkpatrick*  
Frank Kirkpatrick

EXP. PROC.  
MAR 12 1955

ENC. FK/188  
Enc. 1

62-1361-12  
1 MAR 17 1955

FRANK KIRKPATRICK

March 7, 1955

Your registered letter of March 1, disagreeing with my suggestion that the FBI was the only government agency not infiltrated, would seem to be based on inaccurate information as to the functions of the FBI and its position in the Department of Justice.

Much of what you say about the FBI is correct, but I would not describe it in your terms. For illustration, you say: "(1) J. Edgar Hoover spews out empty, flowery speeches. (2) Now and then he allows the FBI to arrest a few communists.....(3) Have you ever wondered why no communist criminals are arrested.....?" (4) The FBI has the right to arrest, (5) instead only collects records that are never seen and never used."

I am not familiar with the book from which you quote, but I am reasonably familiar with the manner in which the FBI operates and the legal inhibitions with which it is surrounded.

If you will consider Mr. Hoover and the FBI factually, I believe you will decide that both he and it merit the use of somewhat different words in describing them. Let's see:

(1) True, Mr. Hoover talks in general terms when making speeches. So must any law enforcement officer. Moreover, Mr. Hoover is in a particularly sensitive position in terms of politics and does not even enjoy the legal security of tenure of many police chiefs. On the other hand, Mr. Hoover has more forthrightly

62-83621-12  
ENCLOSURE 1789-24

January 25, 1957

DIRECTOR, FBI (61-9622)

SAC, CHICAGO (100-15739)

ASSOCIATION OF LITHUANIAN  
WORKERS, aka.  
INTERNAL SECURITY - R & LITHUANIA;  
INTERNAL SECURITY ACT OF 1950

ReBulet dated December 27, 1956, with attached  
Department letter dated December 12, 1956, and New York  
airtel to the Bureau dated January 10, 1957.

Referenced New York airtel set out information  
and informants in the Chicago Division utilized in the  
Prosecutive Summary on captioned organization dated  
September 6, 1952, and the Supplemental Prosecutive  
Summary dated September 29, 1952, made by SA ALEXANDER  
H. GANSKY at New York.

Referenced Department Letter,  
Page 2, Paragraph 4, Re Prosecutive  
Summary on Captioned Organization,  
dated at New York, September 6, 1952

T-6 is [redacted]

T-6 is [redacted] former [redacted]  
presently acting as source of information for the Chicago  
Division. [redacted]

[redacted] and resides  
at [redacted] Chicago, Illinois. He was born  
on [redacted] at [redacted] He came  
to the United States in [redacted] and as yet is not a United  
States citizen, but filed a Declaration of Intention  
on October [redacted] at Chicago. He has never served  
in the Armed Forces and has neither a criminal record  
nor an adverse credit rating. He has been paid for

[redacted] and has furnished accurate  
and reliable information concerning [redacted]  
[redacted] He has never been a

member of any subversive organization.

- (3) - Bureau (Registered)  
2 - New York (100-54867) (Registered)  
1 - Chicago  
PMG:jjg  
(6)

67-1989-25

Searched 42  
Indexed 43

FEB 11 1957  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

FEB 11 1957

CG 100-15739

On January 16, 1957, SA PAUL M. GRIBER contacted [redacted] in connection with the information furnished by him on September 5, 1951, concerning the formation of captioned organization, his comments concerning VINCENT ANDRULIS, and the "vilnis" newspaper. [redacted] stated that he did not witness the riot which took place in June, 1930, when the Association of Lithuanian Workers organization split with the Lithuanian Alliance of America but obtained a full account of the incident from reports of other individuals who were present at this function. He reiterated his statements concerning ANDRULIS and the formation of the "vilnis" newspaper and its continued support of the Communist movement.

b7D

[redacted] again stated that his statements concerning the above were obtained primarily from articles appearing in the "vilnis" newspaper and that he could furnish no factual information to substantiate his assumptions.

[redacted]

T-17 is [redacted]

b2  
b7D

T-17 is [redacted] former [redacted] Chicago files reflect last residence of [redacted] as [redacted] Avenue, Elmhurst, Illinois, in October, 1942. Contact with established sources to date has failed to disclose the present whereabouts of this individual. Efforts are continuing to locate this individual in order to determine whether he is willing to testify to information furnished by him on June 14, 1952, concerning VINCENT ANDRULIS.

b2  
b7D

T-11 is [redacted]

T-11 is [redacted] former [redacted]  
who resides at [redacted] Congress Park, Illinois.  
He is [redacted]

b2  
b7D

[redacted] in Chicago. [redacted] has never been a member of the Communist Party, and there is no evidence of his previously testifying in a trial. He has never been a paid informant but has furnished information concerning some phases of Communist activity among the Lithuanian nationality groups in the Chicago area. He has also furnished information concerning individuals closely associated with the Lithuanian Communist movement in the New York area.

On January 17, 1957, SA PAUL M. GRIBER contacted [redacted] concerning information he furnished in 1943 concerning ROY MIZARA. [redacted] stated that his comments concerning MIZARA and MIZARA's Communist tendencies were attributed to articles appearing in the "Laise" newspaper published in New York.

[redacted] had no other factual information on which he could base his assumptions concerning MIZARA.

b7D

T-16 is [redacted]

T-16 is former [redacted] Review of Chicago files reflects that in the fall of 1951, former [redacted] resided at [redacted] Avenue, New York City. The New York Office has been requested to locate [redacted] and obtain information as requested in referenced letters from the Bureau and the Department.

b7D



CG 100-15739

Department Letter, Page 3,  
Line 6, Re Report of SA  
ALEXANDER M. GANSKY Dated  
December 11, 1953, at New York  
and Captioned "ROYUS MIZARA"

T-9 is [redacted]

former [redacted]

b2  
b7D

T-9 is [redacted]  
mentioned above.

[redacted] when contacted on January 17,  
1957, concerning the statements furnished to the FBI  
on December 17, 1943, advised that this information  
was obtained from articles appearing in the "Laisve"  
newspaper and that he had no other factual information  
to substantiate the data appearing in this statement  
concerning ROY MIZARA.

As mentioned above, [redacted] did not  
desire to testify concerning the above information.

Department Letter, Page 3;  
Paragraphs 1, 2, and 3, Re  
Report of SA WILLIAM E. WARD  
Dated May 20, 1944, at New York  
Captioned "ANTHONY BIMBA"

T-2 and T-3 are [redacted]

T-2 and T-3 are identical to [redacted]  
mentioned previously in this letter. [redacted]  
stated that the information furnished by him concerning  
ANTHONY BIMBA in October, 1943, was obtained from the  
Chicago "Vilnis" newspaper dated October 19, 1943.  
GRIGAITIS also furnished a statement concerning BIMBA,  
which was obtained from articles appearing in the "Vilnis"  
and "Laisve" newspapers and other information published  
in the book written by BENJAMIN GITLOW, "I Confess,"  
which made reference to A. BIMBA and how he took part  
in Communist conferences in America since 1922.

b2  
b7D



# Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : A. H. BELMONT

DATE: December 29, 1954

FROM : W. A. BRANIGAN

SUBJECT: ALOJZY WALASZEK  
INTERNAL SECURITY - PO

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Boardman \_\_\_\_\_  
Nichols \_\_\_\_\_  
Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
Harbo \_\_\_\_\_  
Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Parsons \_\_\_\_\_  
Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
 Sizoo \_\_\_\_\_  
Winterrowd \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Holloman \_\_\_\_\_  
Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

By air-tel 12/23/54 New York advised that Walaszek, Second Secretary of the Polish Embassy, had been in contact with Leopold Dende, subject of Bureau files 105-10473. Jacob Spolanski, former Bureau agent, had volunteered the information to the New York office and stated that Dende had told him that he, Dende, had been arrested in Chicago on an old charge in September, 1954. Walaszek was aware of Dende's arrest, according to Spolanski, but felt Dende could help the Polish Government "in many ways" in promoting the present policy of coexistence. Walaszek felt Dende could be used as he was a newspaperman.

Dende, born 11/2/07 in Poland, naturalized 4/20/33 at Toledo, Ohio, was under investigation by the Bureau from 1948 until 1953. He was arrested on 11/25/36 at Pittsburgh for entering, burglary, and robbery - stickup, and was sentenced on 11/28/36 from 9 to 18 years. He was paroled on 1/24/45. According to informants, when Dende talks with officials of the Polish Government, he pretends to be sympathetic with that Government, and when he talks to other people he is anti-Polish Regime. Dende has been interviewed by investigators for the Senate Internal Security Subcommittee and was subpoenaed to appear before that committee early in March, 1953. This was in connection with his acquaintanceship with Wojciech Albrycht, former Polish Consul General in New York who returned to Poland early in 1954. The Bureau has no information indicating that Dende has appeared before the Internal Security Subcommittee. Dende has been interviewed on several occasions by Bureau agents but has withheld information regarding his alleged sources of information in Europe.

In this connection, New York air-tel 12/23/54 states that one Reverend Florian Kaszubowski, who has collaborated with Dende in some stories and is a speaker on the French Government radio station "Radio France," desires to go to Chicago to testify as a character witness for Dende. Kaszubowski arrived in New York on 12/22/54 and Dende plans to run a sensational story in the Polish-American Journal, Scranton, Pa., (the newspaper for which Dende works) on 1/1/55 which Dende claims will be "sensational." Dende claims Kaszubowski has terrific connections in Poland all the way up to Bierut. Bierut is the titular head of the

100-387461  
Attachment

Tickler: Mr. Belmont, Mr. Branigan, Mr. Kuno

DWK:baw

(4)

55 JAN 6 1955

RECORDED-16

INDEXED-16  
EX

13 DEC 31 1954

51  
5-149007  
DEC

present Polish Regime. New York feels that Dende is desirous of placing himself in a favorable light with the Bureau in view of his pending trial and recommends it make no commitments to Spolanski or Dende.

**OBSERVATIONS:**

1. In view of Spolanski's and Dende's past sensationalism in publishing articles, it is felt that Spolanski and Dende are attempting to place Dende in a position where he could use the Bureau to his advantage in his pending trial for manslaughter in Chicago for which he was arrested 9/54.

2. It appears that Reverend Floryan Kaszubowski may have information of interest to the Bureau. Bureau files are negative regarding him.

**RECOMMENDATIONS:**

1. It is recommended that New York handle this matter as it has recommended in making no commitments to Spolanski and Dende, and accepting any information they may volunteer.

2. If you agree, the attached teletype to New York to contact Kaszubowski, who is visiting relatives in America, and interview him for any information he may have regarding matters of interest to this Bureau including information concerning Americans behind the Iron Curtain, will be sent. New York is being cautioned to be most circumspect in its dealings with Spolanski, Dende and Koszubowski.

Re: Polish Regime  
T. B. R.

gmv  
JH  
JH  
20

WIT

CG 100-15739

[redacted] again reiterated that he did not wish to testify to the above information.

b7D

T-6 is Lieutenant [redacted] ONI Reserve, who furnished information in report of SA T. E. NAUGHTEN dated August 27, 1940, at Chicago entitled "Communist Party Activities in the Illinois Area."

On January 17, 1957, CHARLES H. STEVENSON, Ninth Naval District, ONI, advised SA PAUL M. GRIBER that Lieutenant [redacted] is deceased.

The Chicago Office will endeavor to contact additional sources for the purpose of obtaining information and possible witnesses who can testify concerning the Communist control of the captioned organization and Communist activity on the part of officers and leaders of this organization.

JOHN B. BORDEN, Sauk Trail, Matteson, Illinois, has been contacted and has indicated that if he could examine affidavits submitted to the New York Insurance officials objecting to the incorporation of the captioned organization in 1931, he may be in a position to testify to the information in these documents.

By airtel dated January 17, 1957, the New York Office furnished the sworn affidavit made by JOHN BORDEN on June 24, 1931. These documents will be exhibited to BORDEN in order to refresh his memory and to determine whether he can testify to their content.

## WALTER WINCHELL



The author  
of "The Communist Tra' in America" (Jake Spolansky,  
ex-FBI counter-agent) is at Flower-Fifth Avenue Hosp.

MIAMI HERALD  
Miami, Fla.  
December 20, 1950

ENCLOSURE 100-179502 ✓

DO-7

FROM

OFFICE OF DIRECTOR, FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

TO

OFFICIAL INDICATED BELOW BY CHECK MARK

Mr. Tolson \_\_\_\_\_ ( )  
Mr. Nichols \_\_\_\_\_ ( )  
Mr. Boardman \_\_\_\_\_ ( )  
Mr. Belmont \_\_\_\_\_ ( )  
Mr. Mohr \_\_\_\_\_ ( )  
Mr. Parsons \_\_\_\_\_ ( )  
Mr. Rosen \_\_\_\_\_ ( )  
Mr. Tamm \_\_\_\_\_ ( )  
Mr. Trotter \_\_\_\_\_ ( )  
Mr. Holloman \_\_\_\_\_ ( )  
Miss Gandy \_\_\_\_\_ ( )

*Jake Spolansky*

See Me \_\_\_\_\_ ( )  
Note and Return \_\_\_\_\_ ( )  
Prepare Reply \_\_\_\_\_ ( )  
For Your Recommendation \_\_\_\_\_ ( )  
What are the facts? \_\_\_\_\_ ( )  
Remarks:

**ENCLOSURE**

**67-NOT RECORDED-2**

100 - 179503 - ✓  
NOT RECORDED  
17 JAN 3 1957

**PERS. FILES**

JAN 13 1957

June 1, 1956

100-103060-1  
RECORDED - 72 Mr. Martin J. McMahon  
4322 North Sheridan Road  
Chicago, Illinois

EX-108

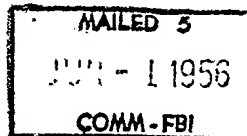
Dear Mr. McMahon:

Your letter dated May 24, 1956, has been received.

While I appreciate the interest which prompted you to write, it is not possible to determine from the information set forth in your communication whether or not the matter you mentioned constitutes a violation of a Federal law within the investigative jurisdiction of this Bureau.

It would be appreciated if you would furnish the complete facts in your possession to our office located at 212 West Monroe Street, Chicago 6, Illinois. You may be sure that this Bureau will take appropriate action in all matters within the purview of its authority.

Sincerely yours,



John Edgar Hoover  
Director

cc - New York, with copy of incoming  
cc - Chicago, with copy of incoming.

NOTE: Correspondent, of whom there is no record in Bufiles, alleges that because of political activity he is being surveilled and his telephone is being tapped. He states he has taken his complaint to the New York Office. The former Agent he referred to, Jacob Spolansky, is a former SA of the Bureau of Investigation and we have received numerous inquiries regarding his activities. In 1943, SAC, Detroit described Spolansky as undependable, unreliable, doublecrossing and conniving. He is looked on unfavorably by the Bureau, and the FBI will have nothing to do with him. (67-1989)

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Boardman \_\_\_\_\_  
Nichols \_\_\_\_\_  
Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
Harbo \_\_\_\_\_  
Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Parsons \_\_\_\_\_  
Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
 Sizoo \_\_\_\_\_  
Winterrowd \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Holloman \_\_\_\_\_  
Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

CEM:sak:efw  
(5)

## Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : MR. A. H. BELMONT

DATE: March 21, 1957

FROM : W. C. Sullivan

SUBJECT: THE FUND FOR THE REPUBLIC  
THE ROOTS OF AMERICAN COMMUNISM (Published 1957)  
 By Theodore Draper  
 Internal Security - C

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
 Boardman \_\_\_\_\_  
 Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mason \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
 Parsons \_\_\_\_\_  
 Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
 Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
 Nease \_\_\_\_\_  
 Winterrowd \_\_\_\_\_  
 Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
 Holloman \_\_\_\_\_  
 Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

SYNOPSIS

The Roots of American Communism, a book issued as first of series in project conducted by Ford Fund for the Republic to assess influence of communism in United States was reviewed by Central Research Section. Published by the Viking Press, New York (on which Bureau indices have no pertinent data) the book traces the historical development of communist movement from 1848 through 1923 and attempts to explain why movement became an appendage of Soviet revolutionary power.

As an assessment of the beginnings of communism in this country, the enclosed book is inadequate, because it:

- (1) fails to expose the illogical concepts of Marxism,
- (2) minimizes the influence of Marxism in early communist movement,
- (3) depicts communism originally as outgrowth of American radicalism,
- (4) divorces Marxism from Leninism, and
- (5) minimizes threat of communist infiltration of American labor movement

As a result, the book amounts to:

- (1) a scathing indictment of Leninism, and
- (2) an implied affirmation of Marxism

Enclosure — Book Detached

CDB:let let

(5) CDB

- 1 - Mr. Brennan  
 1 - Section Tickler  
 1 - Mr. Belmont  
 1 - Mr. Nichols (detached)

RECORDED-32

INDEXED-32

Book data, with ref.  
 filed in Bureau  
 Library 4-25-57.  
 (208)

APR 26 1957

PER. F. PS

Memorandum to Mr. Belmont  
Re: The Fund for the Republic  
The Roots of American Communism  
By Theodore Draper  
Internal Security-C

The affirmation of Marxism is implied by author's claims that:

- (1) much clearer thinking about communism would have resulted if "American" radicals had not overemphasized success of Russian revolution of 1917, and that
- (2) ideas of Frederick Engels are still valuable for consideration

Much of the inadequacy of the book stems from the author's failure to use an unbiased approach, as evidenced by:

- (1) implication that development of Marxism in United States was hampered by misinterpretations of Marxism, and his
- (2) unqualified assertion that activities of Government agents in investigations of revolutionary movements are generally as wild as those of wildest revolutionaries

The book does serve to prove that:

- (1) the communist movement in United States is subservient to Moscow,
- (2) communists have long sought to conceal advocacy of force and violence,
- (3) adherents of communism are completely unprincipled, and
- (4) the Party's recent claim of independence was a tactical maneuver

The book makes no mention of the Director, and the FBI is mentioned specifically as such only on page 296 in a non-derogatory manner. In discussions of the activities of the forerunner of the FBI, the Bureau of Investigation, author is guilty of unscholarly fault of not verifying all verifiable facts as shown by mention of former Bureau employee, Jacob Spolansky, who is described as having been head of our Chicago office.

The author of the book is Theodore Draper, born Theodore Dubinsky, a self-announced "fellow traveler" until 1941, and a former employee of several



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Re: The Fund for the Republic  
The Roots of American Communism  
By Theodore Draper  
Internal Security-C

communist publications during 1930's. Bureau has conducted no investigation of Draper. During contacts in 1954 he was cooperative, but subsequently uncooperative and no further contacts have been made.

Draper's book was edited by Clinton L. Rossiter II, a professor at Cornell University, Ithaca, New York, who is project director of the series of studies being conducted by the Ford Fund for the Republic on the influence of communism in American life. Bureau files reflect Rossiter has had previous communist associations and established the procedure of using former communists as sources of information in the project of which he is director.

In short, the book would seem to indicate that past criticisms of Fund for the Republic are justified; namely, that its activities appear to be based on assumption that Communist Party is not a dangerous threat to our security and, thus, Fund indirectly aids aims and purposes of communists.

RECOMMENDATION:

That this review be forwarded to Mr. Nichols for his information.

*[Handwritten initials: H. Brown, J. H. V., and others]*

Memorandum to Mr. Belmont  
Re: The Fund for the Republic  
The Roots of American Communism  
By Theodore Draper  
Internal Security-C

## DETAILS

The Central Research Section reviewed the book The Roots of American Communism, which was written by Theodore Draper, published by The Viking Press (on which Bureau indices contain no pertinent data), edited by Clinton Ross under the sponsorship of the Ford Fund for the Republic, and issued as the first in a series of studies designed "to assess the influence of communism in American life."

### Purpose and Source Material

As the first of the proposed series, this book attempts to trace the historical development of the communist movement in the United States during the period 1848 to 1923 and interlock that historical phase with an explanation of the forces that directed the development of the movement into the position which it occupied in 1923. To compile material for the book, the author gathered among his other sources, an imposing array of old communist documents, conducted interviews with former communists, and utilized material from the writings of communists.

### Failure to Tell the Whole Truth

The most significant conclusion that can be reached after reviewing the book is the truth of the author's statement in the first sentence of the introduction of the book, wherein he declares that "It is possible to say many true things about the Communist movement and yet not the whole truth." The failure of the book to reveal the "whole truth" about the development of communism in the United States makes the book inadequate.

Telling the "whole truth" of the communist movement in the United States necessitates exposing the fraudulent basis out of which it developed - the

Memorandum to Mr. Belmont

Re: The Fund for the Republic  
The Roots of American Communism  
By Theodore Draper  
Internal Security-C

so-called "scientific socialism" of Karl Marx. This book fails to do that. In fact, its failure to do so amounts to a reaffirmation of Marxism, because the author separates Marxism from Leninism and presents a scathing indictment of the latter. The failure to treat Marxism in the same way would seem to imply tacit approval of at least some propositions formulated by Marx.

### A Biased Approach

This book reveals the difficulties encountered when former adherents of communism attempt to assess the movement. Treatment of subject matter of this nature demands a completely unbiased and objective approach. That the author failed to present an unbiased analysis is evidenced by his implication that the development of communism in this country was hampered by misinterpretations of the basic propositions of Marx and his unqualified assertion that the activities of Government agents investigating revolutionary movements are generally as wild as those of the wildest revolutionaries.

### Communism Presented as Outgrowth of American Radicalism

While attacking the atrocity and terror which has become synonymous with the system developed in the Soviet Union under communist leaders since the time of Lenin, the author lays the groundwork for the claim that the development of communism in the United States stems basically from an American movement which was diverted into becoming an appendage of the Soviet revolutionary system through overemphasis on the success of the Russian Revolution of 1917.

### False Conclusion Can Be Drawn

Although the author does not state the conclusion, an inference can be drawn from his book that communism, formed and developed in accordance with the basic propositions of Karl Marx and Frederick Engels, merits consideration for use in the future growth of American life. This is evidenced further in the author's implication that communism is not a threat to the American labor movement.

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The Roots of American Communism  
By Theodore Draper  
Internal Security-C

### Valuable Attributes of Book

This book does have some valuable attributes. In effect, it serves (1) to expose the complete, subservient allegiance of the Communist Party, USA, to the Soviet Union, (2) to reveal the efforts of communists to avoid prosecution by concealing their determination to use force and violence as a means of overthrowing our Government, (3) to disclose the deceit, distortion, and hate that characterizes the dealings of communists not only with noncommunists but with other communists as well, and (4) to unwittingly provide material which proves that the present tactics of the Communist Party, USA, in claiming that it has severed ties with Moscow are based on teachings advocated by leaders of the world communist movement seventy years ago.

### Necessity of Refuting Marxism

On the first page of the first chapter of this book, the author points out that "the first Marxian Socialists in the United States were German immigrants who came over after the ill-fated German revolution of 1848." Authorities generally agree that modern socialism dates from the publication of the Communist Manifesto in 1848, which gave birth to the so-called "scientific socialism" of Karl Marx and Frederick Engels. The author traces the development of the communist movement in this country from that point without any effort to explain, as one philosopher has, that "communism offers a complete philosophical system which must be refuted before its revolutionary objectives can rightfully be challenged." The great inadequacy of the book is centered on this point, because in discussing communism, as another philosopher has warned, "if you accept its basically false first assumption, there is no stopping its conclusions, just as if you grant two plus two equals five, then you must grant all erroneous multiples based on that initial mistake." (Charles J. McFadden, The Philosophy of Communism, New York, Benzinger Brothers, Inc., 1939, pp. x, xvi)

### Marxism and Leninism Divorced

In his examination of the early origins of the American communist movement, the author traces the history of all of the important, conflicting

Memorandum to Mr. Belmont  
Re: The Fund for the Republic  
The Root of American Communism  
By Theodore Draper  
Internal Security-C

organizations which contributed to the ebb and flow of the movement until 1917, when the Russian Revolution acted as a catalyst to solidify the forces of the "American Left Wing" and shape those forces in the image of the Russian Bolsheviks. At that point, the author divorces Marxism and Leninism. He states that under Lenin the Soviet regime became "an intellectual jungle in which all Communists had lost their way." He explains that Lenin had led his followers into a "Marxist cul-de-sac" and, as a result, had to improvise a new program for the new direction of the world communist movement. (p. 250)

#### Attack on Leninism

With Marxism thus divorced from Leninism, the author describes Leninism as "one of the cruelest deceptions and self-deceptions in history," because the peaceful, utopian promises of Lenin were made a shambles by the terror and atrocity that developed under the Soviet system established in Russia. However, although the author condemns the Soviet system by stating that "there is no more scathing critique of the Soviet reality than the Bolshevik promises," by describing those promises as those of Bolsheviks and attributing them to Lenin and his followers, the author again absolves Marx and Engels of having fostered the false doctrine which gave rise to the communist movement. In addition, the author ignores the fact that very competent philosophers who have made an analysis of the communist movement detect no difference in the basic ideas of Marxism and Leninism, but see in them a single, coherent system. (Draper, p. 108) (McFadden, op. cit., pp. xviii, xix)

#### Implied Acceptance of Marxism

The author's implied acceptance of the validity of Marxism is evidenced in the explanations he offers as to the reasons for the conflicts between various organizations on the American scene in the latter half of the nineteenth century. For example, speaking of the conflicts between Samuel Gompers, leader of the American Federation of Labor, and leaders of various socialist groups, the

Memorandum to Mr. Belmont

Re: The Funds for the Republic  
The Roots of American Communism  
By Theodore Draper  
Internal Security-C

author states that "what separated Gompers from the Socialists was the difference in their interpretations of material interest, not the basic proposition itself." He adds that "whatever success Gompers had, and the Socialists did not have, was scarcely a repudiation of the Marxist emphasis on material interests." The author then concludes with the statement that "it might have indicated the need for American Marxists to take their materialism a little more materialistically." (Draper, p. 29)

#### Significant Conclusion Overlooked

A completely unbiased and objective approach is a major prerequisite for any analysis. However, in this book, the author appears to lapse into the role of an apologist at times, apparently seeking, as many former communists writing of the movement do, self-justification for his own intellectual involvement in the movement. He explores, for example, the part played by John Reed as a leader in the communist movement years ago, and offers it as evidence that "Communism was more than a movement of social outcasts if it could attract someone like Reed." The author justifies his use of Reed as an example by offering the observation that "a movement capable of converting Reed had potentialities which cannot be too simply dismissed with a formula." That is a valid observation. Communism is too dangerous to dismiss with a formula. The author, however, misses the significant conclusion that should have been drawn. Using Reed as an example of how even men of intellect become ensnared in the web of communism, he should have cited the vital necessity of exposing communism at the core so that all might see the truly illogical basis on which it has been formulated. (Draper, p. 117, 121)

#### Unqualified Assertion Concerning Government Investigations

The author's former adherence to communism reveals itself again in his discussion of the investigation and handling of subversive activities by Government agents. The author takes several cases from the period 1919-1920,

Memorandum to Mr. Belmont

Re: The Fund for the Republic  
The Roots of American Communism  
By Theodore Draper  
Internal Security-C

presents them in a ridiculous and ludicrous manner, and proceeds to draw a plain, unqualified conclusion that "it seems to be a general rule in revolutionary movements that government agents behave like 'agitators' of the wildest type." "The author fails to make any mention of the highly principled procedures of law enforcement which have evolved through the years in this country as contrasted to the loathsome system which evolved in communist countries. He neglects to contrast the police system of a democracy which works in conjunction with the courts to assure all men, even those engaged in efforts to destroy our Government, a just hearing, as compared with the secret police systems of communist regimes which possess the power to arrest, try, and execute in a single function. (Draper, pp. 226; 232)

#### Minimizes Influence of Marxism

The author attempts to minimize the influence of Marxism on the development of the communist movement in the United States by stating that "the founders of Marxism were complex enough to plant in their own work the seeds for most of the schisms that have taken place in their name." The truth is that Marxism was complex enough to have fostered a variety of groups with varying interpretations of its application, as is evidenced in the book. (Draper, p. 26)

#### Incorrect Conclusion

The author offers his history of the various groups that existed during the last half of the nineteenth century and the first part of the twentieth century as proof that it was "a new expression of American radicalism" developing. Consistent with the author's implied theory that the evil of communism stems not from Marxism, but from Leninism, is his explanation that this "new expression of American radicalism" was transformed into an "American appendage of a Russian Revolution of 1917. It is more correct than incorrect to state that the American communist movement was transformed from a new expression of American radicalism based on Marxism to the American appendage of a Russian revolutionary power. (Draper, p. 395)

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Re: The Fund for the Republic  
The Roots of American Communism  
By Theodore Draper  
Internal Security-C

### Communists Capitalize on Book

How gratifying the author's conclusion is to American communists is revealed in their efforts to use it to substantiate their claims that the Communist Party, USA, is an American organization. The east coast communist newspaper, the Daily Worker, contained a review of the author's book on March 13, 1957, which stated in part that "what Draper does do in his book... is to present the American roots of the American Communist Party." (Daily Worker, 3/13/57, p. 6)

### Presenting Marxism Favorably

It is possible to infer from the author's presentation that communism has attributes that merit consideration for use in the United States. Referring to a trip which Frederick Engels made to the United States and Canada in 1888, for example, the author states that Engels "was able to make a quite extensive and detailed analysis of the special problems of the American movement, and one that can still be studied with profit more than a half-century later." In fact, the author seems to border on the verge of regret for a lost dream, when he states that "there would have been much clearer thinking about the nature of communism if less attention had been paid to the Russian Revolution of 1917." (Draper, pp. 25 352)

### Minimizing Threat of Communist Penetration of American Labor Movement

At the same time, the author minimizes the threat of the infiltration of communists into the American labor movement by implication when he states that:

"In Left Wing dualism, two words were invariably linked - "revolutionary" and "industrial." This tradition enabled the A. F. of L. to fight industrial unionism as if it were a revolutionary plot. It enabled the Left Wing to use the popular appeal of industrial unionism to advance its revolutionary aims. But when industrial unionism finally came to the American labor movement in the 1930's, it required no revolution, and eventually the A. F. of L. made peace with it." (Draper, p. 20)



Memorandum to Mr. Belmont  
Re: The Fund for the Republic  
The Roots of American Communism  
By Theodore Draper  
Internal Security-C

What the author fails to point out is that the American Federation of Labor waited nearly twenty years to make peace with industrial unionism. It only did so after the organized industrial unions purged themselves of more than ten affiliate unions which the leaders of industrial unionism themselves found to be so infested with communists as to be able to dominate those unions and subvert their activities entirely to support of the foreign policy of the Soviet Union to the detriment of the United States.

#### Book Proves Allegiance of Communist Party to Russia

The author is able to offer convincing proof that the Communist Party the United States allied itself with the Soviet Union from the very origin of its existence as it stands today. Noteworthy among the items of proof offered by the author in this respect is his inclusion of the following:

"...In 1930, William Z. Foster was asked, 'Now, if I understand you, the workers in this country look upon the Soviet Union as their country; is that right?' And Foster, reflecting the training of the older generation of Communist leaders, answered without hesitation, 'The more advanced workers do.' " (Draper, p. 26.

The significance of this becomes apparent when it is realized that William Z. Foster is still a dominant leader of the Communist Party in the United States today.

#### Efforts to Conceal Advocacy of Force and Violence Exposed

Another blow is struck by the author at the Communist Party's latest claim that it disavows the belief of the necessity of using force and violence to achieve the transition to communism in this country. As the author points out, as far back as 1922 leaders of the Party realized the necessity of making such claims for tactical reasons in their efforts to avoid prosecution. For example, the author cites several Party leaders at that time who believed explicitly in the necessity and inevitability of resorting to force and violence to overthrow capitalism, but who cautioned followers to do so, not "to shout it from the housetops here, there, everywhere; now, tomorrow, anytime," pointing out that "when the open existence of the Communist Party is at stake, then the insistence on this phrase is little short of lunacy." Another Party leader of that era is quoted by the author to the effect that "it is not necessary to write our program in language best suited to prosecutors." With these warnings to Party members, the author reveals, Party leaders in 1922 instituted "the transition from open espousal of the inevitability of violence to a more guarded, implicit understanding of the same principle." (Draper, pp. 354, 355)

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Author Unwillingly Exposes Party's 1957 Claim of Independence

The author also unwittingly provides material which adds to the evidence that the recent claim of the Communist Party, USA, that it had severed ties with Moscow and intended to interpret Marxism-Leninism in accordance with American conditions is nothing more than a tactical maneuver based on the teachings of the original founders of the American communist movement. The author quotes, for instance, from several letters written by Frederick Engels to leaders of the communist movement in the United States seventy years ago emphasizing the course of action to be followed in the development of communism in this country. In one letter, Engels stated that "our theory is a theory of evolution, not a dogma to be learnt by heart and to be repeated mechanically." In another letter he added that "the masses are to be set in motion only along the road that fits each country and the prevailing circumstances, which is usually a roundabout road." (Draper, p. 26) (Verified in original source, Karl Marx and Frederick Engels, Letters to Americans 1848-1895, International Publishers, 1953, pp. 168, 192)

Unprincipled Activities

The most convincing conclusion that can be drawn from the author's book is one that he neglects because of his failure to expose the fraud of **Marxism**. The book convincingly illustrates that **Marxism** breeds hate, fear, distrust, deceit, and dissension not only between communists and noncommunists, but also between communists themselves. If the author had shown that the American communist movement stems so greatly from the influence of **Marx** and then revealed the illogical basis of **Marxism**, it would be possible to understand the motivation for the corrupt practices of communists. As a noted philosopher has explained it, instead of devising a system to fit the needs of man, **Marx** devised a system and attempted to fit man into it. As a result, followers of **Marx** inevitably end in conflict with each other as well as with others. The author's book concretely illustrates the conflict inherent in **Marxism**, but in failing to expose its basic illogical concepts, the author fails to show that it is those concepts which account for the completely unprincipled behavior of the communists whose lives he explores. (McFadden, op. cit., pp. 329, 330)

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### Unscholarly Handling of Material

The Roots of American Communism contains an imposing array of source material; however, the book serves to show that the inclusion of such material does not prove, per se, the validity of an author's presentation. On the contrary, it often reveals, as in this case, that an author has been guilty of the unscholarly fault of failing to verify all the facts which he obtained from that source material and on which he based his presentation.

In the introduction to the book, the author pointed out the difficulty of establishing the truth of any particular historical incident which has been related in contradictory terms by various participants, especially when there is no official means of verifying the facts. However, the author is expected to verify facts which are subject to verification and which he deems important enough for use. Haphazard handling of verifiable facts creates doubt concerning the author's ability to use good judgment in handling contradictory and unverifiable information.

### Facts Not Verified

The author's mishandling of verifiable information is revealed in The Roots of American Communism, for example, in the manner in which he recounts the experiences of Government agents involved in investigations of subversive activities in and around 1919. One individual who plays a prominent role in the author's presentation of those investigations, Jacob Spolansky, is described as the head of the Chicago office of the Bureau of Investigation, identified as the forerunner of the Federal Bureau of Investigation. Spolansky is afforded that title throughout the book, including the description of his activities at a meeting in Chicago in September, 1919, when the present Communist Party originated. The truth is that Spolansky never was in charge of any office of the Bureau of Investigation during his short career in the organization, and, at the time of the communist meeting in Chicago in September, 1919, Spolansky had been an employee, not even in the capacity of an agent, of the Bureau of Investigation for less than sixty days. (Draper, pp. 182, 368) (67-1989-20)

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The author's lapse in misrepresenting Spolansky's position stems from his acceptance of Spolansky's claims in a book written by him. Nevertheless, the facts were subject to verification due to the existence of official records. If the author had checked and found that Spolansky misrepresented even the simple fact of the nature of his position, he might have had cause to wonder how much of the other material which he used from Spolansky's book was true. Similarly, the question arises as to how many other times the author was victimized by overly dramatized or false claims in the rest of the material which he used. (Jacob Spolansky, The Communist Trail in America, pp. 23-30)

#### The FBI Mentioned

The Federal Bureau of Investigation is mentioned specifically by the author only in respect to an interview of Louis C. Fraina, an early leader of the communist movement, by Bureau Agents. Information concerning the interview is set out on page 296 and is in no way derogatory to the Bureau.

#### No Mention of the Director

The book contains no mention of the Director, it being noted that the book deals principally with the period 1848 to and including 1923.

#### Author's Communist Background

Bureau files reflect that the author of the book, Theodore Draper, was born Theodore Dubinsky in Brooklyn, New York. He was investigated by G-2, Department of the Army, in 1943, while a private in the United States Army. Investigation reflected that he was affiliated with the Communist Party, had been a rewrite man and copy reader for the Daily Worker, east coast communist newspaper, was once employed by the magazine New Masses, which was cited by a Congressional Committee, had been connected with the Russian Tass News Agency, and had received communist literature in the mail while in the Army. The information concerning his communist affiliation and employment is reflected on the book jacket. (100-362227-1)

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Author Uncooperative Recently

Bureau files further reflect that Draper testified before an Executive Session of the Jenner Committee in May, 1954, at which time he stated that he had never been a member of the Communist Party, but had followed the Communist Party line until 1941 and described himself as a "fellow traveler." No investigation of Draper has been conducted by the Bureau. Draper was interviewed by Bureau Agents in August, 1954, concerning his activities, associates, and affiliations with regard to the communist movement and displayed a cooperative attitude. However, in January, 1955, Draper responded to contacts by advising that future interviews would have to be conducted in the presence of his attorney. Inasmuch as Draper's attorney, O. John Rogge, displayed an unfriendly attitude, there have been no further contacts with Draper. (100-362227-8, 13)

Project Director, Clinton L. Rossiter

The Roots of American Communism is the first in a series of studies which the Ford Fund for the Republic announced in 1955 that it was undertaking to assess the influence of communism in American life. This study project was established with Professor Clinton Rossiter, of Cornell University, as the director. Bureau files reflect that Clinton Lawrence Rossiter, II, Cornell University professor, had been disapproved for security clearance following an investigation conducted by another Government agency which conducts intelligence investigations, because in 1953 he gave as a reference a person who had been listed as one of the individuals controlling the American Russian Institute, Hollywood, California. The American Russian Institute has been cited by the Attorney General pursuant to Executive Order 10450. (Monograph: The Fund for the Republic, Inc., pp. 49, 96)

The Cornell Daily Sun, Ithaca, New York, reported an interview in February, 1955, with Professor Clinton L. Rossiter in which he stated that in the survey project he was directing for the Fund for the Republic on communism former communists would be utilized as sources of information, but would not be the only sources used. That this procedure was used in

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preparing The Roots of American Communism is evidenced in the acknowledgements in the book (pp. 459-461) wherein the author expresses his thanks and indebtedness to more than a dozen individuals, the majority of whom, as reflected in Bureau files, have had communist affiliations at one time or another. (Monograph: The Fund for the Republic, Inc., p. 96)

Past Criticism of Fund for Republic Appears Merited

In conclusion, it is to be noted that the Fund for the Republic has been severely criticized in the past by various individuals or groups of individuals primarily on the basis that its activities appear to be based on the assumption that the Communist Party, USA, is not a dangerous threat to the security of the United States, but is merely another political party akin to the Democratic and Republican Parties. As a result, the Fund for the Republic has often been charged with indirectly aiding the aims and purposes of the Communist Party. A careful analysis of the book The Roots of American Communism would seem to indicate that such criticism is merited. (Monograph: The Fund for the Republic, Inc., p. 143)

Not the way you do things in Virginia (FBI mentioned)

15 15

The Washington Post, D-1

Reluctant Terry in cross fire of feud (FBI mentioned)

15

The Washington Post, B-1

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